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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

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Hyatt Regency Saipan donates \$2,345 to the Autism Society of the CNMI.

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Severe sanction anew for NMC

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The accreditation of the Northern Marianas College was again placed under the most severe sanction after the institution failed to correct deficiencies identified by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges.

» **Show-cause, closure reports due in 7 months**

The CNMI's lone community college was slapped with a show-cause status, which means the commission found the institution in substantial non-compliance with eligibility requirements, accreditation standards, policies, or it has not responded to conditions imposed by the commission.

NMC, however, remains accredited during the show-cause period.

The commission, in its decision an-

nounced by the college yesterday, ordered NMC to submit by Oct. 15, 2013, two documents: a show-cause report and a closure report. These reports will then be verified by commission representatives during a visit to the college.

In a letter to NMC president Sharon Y. Hart, Ph.D., commission president Barbara A. Beno, Ph.D., cited the college's

See NMC on Page 4

PUBLIC HEARING

Deputy regional administrator Lisa Ku'ulei Croft of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service, left, answers a question from the audience as Lisa Van Atta, second left, C. Mark Eakin and Chelsey Young, both seated, look on during the public hearing on the proposed listing of 66 coral species under the Endangered Species Act held Tuesday night at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center. Many community members opposed the proposal, citing a lack of information and the proposal's potential impacts, among others.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

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3rd person dies in Guam rampage

By AUDREY McAVOY and OSKAR GARCIA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

A third person has died after being hit by a car during a rampage in Guam's tourist district that left two others dead and 11 people injured, officials said Thursday.

Spokesman Tony Muña of the Guam Visitors Bureau said that a 51-year-old man taken to Guam Memorial Hospital in critical condition died Thursday morning, local time.

Authorities are not immediately releasing his name while a complaint filed against 21-year-old Chad Ryan De Soto is

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RELATED NEWS

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Senate to adopt impeachment trial rules today

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The special Senate committee that is drafting the first ever impeachment trial rules in CNMI history is expected to finalize and adopt the rules today for full Senate consideration, according to Senate Vice President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan), who chairs the panel.

The full Senate is expected to adopt the trial rules during a session on Tinian this afternoon.

Senate President Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian) will then write a letter to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial notifying him of the impeachment resolution, request

his response to the charges, and inform him of the start of the trial.

Torres said the rules as drafted will prohibit the governor from communicating or meeting with senators and vice versa on the issue of impeachment to "respect" the process.

He said the governor will be given "a speedy and fair trial." He said senators will be fair and impartial during the trial.

But former representative Joe Palacios said yesterday afternoon that there's "no way the senators will be fair and impartial. They have been supporting impeachment from day one."

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Torres

Local

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PSS eyes \$37.8M budget for 2014

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Public School System endorsed to the Board of Education yesterday a budget proposal of \$37.8 million for the next fiscal year, much larger than the current budget of just \$31 million.

Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D., said the proposed budget highlights the need to restore 70 teaching positions that were cut by the previous Legislature.

She described the existing operation of public schools as “very stressful,” particularly in classrooms where large class sizes remain evident such as in Garapan Elementary School where 14 classrooms have as much as 32 students per teacher.

“We’re asking to restore the [positions] that were cut this fiscal year. PSS lost about 70 positions and we need them back. Right now, it’s very stressful and we commend our teachers and staff for their dedication. I am hoping the legislators will recognize the need to really change the status quo,” Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* during a break in yesterday’s board meeting.

The \$37.8 million budget plan includes \$31 million for personnel salary and benefits, \$4 million for school utilities, a little over \$1 million for school repairs and maintenance, and \$2.5 million for all others.

However, even if PSS suc-

ceeds in securing this amount, this will still not allow the system to lift its stringent conservation policy, including the four-hour limit on air-conditioning, Sablan said.

“PSS conservation mode is set forever” at this time, she said, unless the system comes up with additional funds that will allow all-day AC consumption.

In fact, Sablan added, PSS is putting together its “Go Green” initiative that would include recycling, sharing and maximizing school resources, among other elements.

BOE chair Herman T. Guerrero tabled the proposed budget for further review. He said the board has to make sure that all justifications are reviewed and admitted that he still has some questions.

Among the factors that may impact the local budget request, he said, is the proposed minimum wage increase at the national level that will affect the CNMI educational system and its personnel.

Guerrero also cited the need to review all positions that will require funding in 2014 to ensure that this will address the ongoing overcrowding in classrooms.

Government agencies have until end of this month to submit their budget proposals for 2014 to the Office of Budget and Management, which will then consolidate the total budget for submission to the Legislature on April 1.

Bordallo condoles with people of Japan

Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) extended yesterday her condolences to the families of the victims and the people of Japan in the wake of the mass stabbing in Tumon, Guam, that killed two Japanese women and injured 12 others.

“I am deeply saddened and shocked by this tragedy in Tumon. [In] Guam, we welcome our visitors in the same way we welcome our own families. This was a senseless tragedy,

and it is sad to see this type of violence [in] Guam. Guam continues to be an exceptionally safe travel destination and we will continue to provide our visitors with the same hospitality and respect we were raised with. I also applaud those who mustered the courage to subdue the assailant until police could arrive on the scene. ...I will continue to keep all those affected in my thoughts and prayers.” (PR)



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Ex-convict gets 30 years in prison for raping ex-girlfriend

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

An ex-convict who raped his former girlfriend in an abandoned house near her residence was slapped yesterday with a maximum sentence of 30 years in prison.

Joshua Indalecio Martin will, however, be able to apply for parole after serving 10 years of his sentence. He was given credit for time served and was required to pay a \$100 court as-

essment fee.

Martin, 23, pleaded guilty to sexual assault in the first degree as part of a plea deal. The offense carries a minimum sentence of eight years and maximum of 30 years behind bars.

To explain why he did not hand down a sentence without the possibility of parole, Superior Court Associate Judge Perry B. Inos said that acting public defender Douglas Hartig convinced him that Martin has a medical condition.

Hartig had cited that Martin has some psychological problems and was diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. He recommended a sentence of eight years in prison.

The Adult Probation Office recommended a sentence of 10 years.

Citing egregious facts in the case, assistant attorney general James McAllister recommended a 30-year sentence.

McAllister said that Martin showed up at someone's house

in the middle of the night, got the victim out of bed, threatened to kill her, forced her out to an abandoned house, and forced her to have sex with him.

"There was also evidence that the incident was premeditated. There were threats over the Internet directed at the victim's boyfriend," McAllister said.

He said the court-appointed doctor that performed a competency evaluation on Martin came up with a finding that the defendant was malingering.

He believes that malingering involves pretending or exaggerating.

Medical dictionaries define malingering as the act of intentionally exaggerating physical or psychological symptoms for personal gain.

Inos said that, based on court records, Martin started with a simple assault and battery conviction, then escalated to theft and now his most egregious crime yet.

Police detective Catherine

B. Pangelinan stated in her report that a police officer was dispatched on July 13, 2012, at 3:13am to a residence in Afetnas after receiving a call about a rape incident.

Pangelinan said the officer arrived to see the 18-year-old victim crying. The victim told police that Martin choked her and threatened to kill her if she does not follow him outside. Martin kept pushing the victim until they reached the abandoned house where he raped her.

CRIME OF THE WEEK

Car burglary in Marpi

Crime Stoppers is seeking the public's help for information on a car burglary and theft incident that occurred at the Last Command Post, Marpi.

On Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2013, at about 1pm, the victims, a Japanese tourist couple (male, age 48, and female, age 34) parked their rented 2012 silver Toyota Corolla sedan at the parking lot

of the Last Command Post.

The tourists walked down to the cliff side, took photos and returned several minutes later to discover the front passenger window broken and their personal items stolen. There was no sighting of anyone in the area. The suspect(s) may have been hiding in the tree line.

The missing items include a

Coach bag, containing a pair of gold earrings, a gold necklace, a hotel safe key, two credit cards, medication, and about \$150 cash.

DPS and Crime Stoppers need your help. Contact the Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272 should you want to remain anonymous or use our website at www.nmicrimestoppers.net Crime stoppers pays up to \$1,000 for any information leading to an arrest. It pays to call. (*Crime Stoppers*)

Sentencing of man in 'ice' case reset

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona vacated yesterday the sentencing hearing today of a man arrested in Tacoma, Washington, who pleaded guilty to "ice" trafficking on Saipan.

Manglona said that Jordan Mendiola Reyes will be sentenced at a later date that will

allow him adequate notice.

Manglona reset the sentencing to March 20, 2013 at 1:30pm.

A federal grand jury indicted Reyes in August 2012 with one count of conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine and two counts of distribution of methamphetamine.

From June 10, 2010, until

Aug. 22, 2012, Reyes allegedly conspired with other persons to distribute "ice" on Saipan.

After the indictment was filed in federal court, authorities arrested Reyes in Tacoma, Washington and then brought him to Saipan.

Reyes signed a plea deal with the U.S. government. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Retired Supreme Court justice on Marianas Agupa

Marianas Agupa will feature retired CNMI Supreme Court chief justice Jose S. Dela Cruz tomorrow, Feb. 16, from 10am to 10:30am to talk about his view on our political maturity under the U.S. flag and other matters, including the impeachment process. Listeners are encouraged to call in and ask questions during the show (234-5929 or instant messaging via Marianas Agupa's Facebook account). Internet streaming via www.magic100radio.com will be available.

The Chamorro radio talk show program is hosted by Glenn H. Manglona, with Joseph S. Inos, Thomas D. Mendiola, David M. Cing, John Del Rosario Jr., and Antonio R. Cabrera. For more information, contact Manglona at 287-4536. (*PR*)

WSR Family Fun Night today

The William S. Reyes Elementary School PTSA will be hosting a Family Fun Night today, Feb. 15, 2013, from 4:30pm to 9pm at the WSR campus in Chalan Kanoa. Come join us for a great night with family and friends. There will be lots of good food and wonderful entertainment. (*PR*)

Public library offer rummage sale space

To coincide with the monthly Joeten-Kiyu Public Library Book Sale, the library will be

providing space for a rummage/parking lot sale on Feb. 23, 2013, from 7:30am to 1pm. The cost is \$25 for a 10x20 space. Reserve a slot as space is limited. All proceeds collected will be used for Joeten-Kiyu Public Library and JKPL anniversary celebration. (*JKPL*)

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Listing of CNMI corals on ESA list opposed

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
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REPORTER

Island residents opposed Tuesday night a proposal to include several coral species on the Endangered Species Act list, saying the move is not warranted due to a lack of enough information on the species and logistical issues, among others.

The public hearing hosted by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe is part of the ongoing comment period for the proposal.

Tuesday's event was the ninth of a series of public hearings that NOAA hosted throughout the Pacific Islands, while another group of federal staffers held similar public hearings in the Caribbean.

Lisa M. Van Atta, NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service assistant regional administrator for protected resources, said the proposal to list 66 coral species was set off by a petition they received in 2009 from the Center for Biological Diversity.

CBD's petition, based on a scientific report, sought to list as either

endangered or threatened at least 83 coral species, providing them with additional protection that would prevent these species from going extinct, said Van Atta.

She said that one of the species was removed from the list since it did not meet NOAA's initial criteria, trimming the list down to 82. Of those species, NOAA is currently proposing 66 species to be listed—59 of which are found in the Pacific and seven others in Caribbean.

Van Atta revealed that of the 59 proposed species in the Pacific, 29 occur in the CNMI—28 are proposed as threatened while one specie is proposed as endangered.

"This was a huge undertaking for NOAA Fisheries—almost unprecedented," according to Van Atta, explaining that the agency had to assemble a biological review team of scientists to put together the biological and ecological basis for the listing.

Their work, she said, resulted in two "extensive" reports on the 82 coral species: the status review report that identified 19 major threats to coral species and concluded that most coral species are likely to be in danger of extinc-

tion by 2100; and the management report, which concluded that the worst threats—ocean warming, disease, and ocean acidification—are the "hardest" threats to manage, and called for a recovery plan for the involved species.

Department of Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Arnold Palacios said the proposed listing is another "divisive issue" in the Northern Marianas, alluding to the creation of the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument.

"We're being asked again to give up a lot of things," he said.

Palacios urged NOAA to quantify the impact of the proposal on CNMI and other affected Pacific Islands.

John Gourley said he could not support the listing of the proposed coral species due to lack of information available on them. He will, however, support the species to be identified as "species of concern" until such time that sufficient information is available to make an informed decision on the listing.

Steven Johnson said the listing would result in a "logistical nightmares" such as distribution and monitoring issues, making it difficult for both people who enforce the laws and those who have to

live with these laws.

Tanapag resident Benigno M. Sablan said he is "quite critical" of a lot of federal impositions and regulations that distort the island culture.

"We have provided all the significant laws and regulations to protect our coral species. To list them in range is detrimental to our way of life," he said, adding that the proposal would "tremendously" impact island residents who depend on fishing on a daily basis.

In an interview after the public hearing, NOAA deputy regional administrator Lisa Ku'ulei Croft noted "common themes" throughout the public hearings they conducted in the Pacific. They expect the same theme in the Rota public hearing scheduled tonight.

Croft said it's also "interesting" to see the level of education of the comments they receive, that people are "really well-informed" and have a good understanding of the issue.

Because of the interest generated by the proposal, Van Atta said they are leaning toward extending the comment period for another 30 days, moving the deadline from March 7 to April 7. But this does not change their Dec. 7 deadline to have the final determination for the proposed listing, she added.

"The important thing for us to let folks know is that a decision has not been made," noted Croft.

She and Van Atta urged the public to provide their comments by logging on to www.regulations.gov and enter 0648-XT12 or NOAA-NMFS-2010-0036 into the keyword search; or mailing the comments along with supporting documents to:

NOAA Fisheries Pacific Islands Regional Office

1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Ste. 1110
Honolulu, HI 96814

Attn: Listing corals under the Endangered Species Act

IMPEACHMENT

From Page 1

"They cannot be prosecutor, jury and judge at the same time. Let the real judges be the judge or let the public be the jury. The court is the proper place for this; if the governor did something wrong, he should be taken into court. While I understand the constitutional provision on impeachment, our senators and House members are not fair and impartial," Palacios told *Saipan Tribune*.

By a vote of 16-4 on almost all the 18 articles of impeachment, the House impeached Fitial, 68, on Monday and Tuesday. The governor, 68, now faces trial at the nine-member Senate.

Senators are also poised to confirm during its Tinian session this afternoon five of the governor's appointees, including Sgt. James Guerrero as Department of Public Safety commissioner, Anthony A. Camacho as secretary of the Department of Public Works, Michaela U. Sanchez as a member of the Northern Marianas College Board of Regents representing Tinian, Martin B. Ada as a member of the Marianas Public Land Trust, and Arsene Borja as a member of the Civil Service Commission.

Influence

Rep. Cris Leon Guerrero (Cov-Saipan), one of the members of a House special committee that reviewed the resolution

impeaching Fitial for 18 allegations of corruption, felony and neglect of duty, said yesterday that the governor "tried to influence" him to vote against the impeachment resolution.

Leon Guerrero, a former police detective and now chairman of the House Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations, voted "yes" to all the 18 impeachment articles.

He said the governor used an emissary to arrange a meeting between him and the governor around the time his daughter's job application with a government agency was pending. That meeting occurred and there was an offer made, Leon Guerrero said, but he declined to go into details of that meeting at this time. His daughter didn't get the job.

Saipan Tribune tried to obtain comments from the governor or his administration, but was told to contact the press secretary who has been on leave for an off island leadership training and is not expected to be back until next week. The governor has not designated an acting press secretary.

Earlier, Reps. Mario Taitano (IR-Saipan) and Janet Maratita (IR-Saipan) also said the governor tried to reach out to them.

If the Senate convicts Fital on at least one of the 18 charges, he would only be the ninth governor in the whole United States to be removed because of impeachment. The last was Illinois' Rod Blagojevich in 2009.

RAMPAGE

From Page 1

updated, Muña said.

A Japan Foreign Ministry official who requested anonymity identified the person killed as 51-year-old Hitoshi Yokota. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because of department rules.

De Soto, of Tamuning, is accused of plowing into several people with his gray Toyota Yaris late Tuesday as he drove onto a sidewalk and into a convenience store at the Outrigger hotel in the Tumon district. Authorities say he then got out of his car and started stabbing people he came across.

Authorities said that De Soto hurt six people with his car and eight with his knife.

Muña said the 51-year-old victim was hit by De Soto's car.

Muña says four victims remain hospitalized in the U.S. territory: a 51-year-old woman listed in "guarded" condition, a 70-year-old woman in stable condition, and two girls in

stable condition—a 3-month-old and an 8-month-old. A 22-year-old woman in stable condition was transferred to a hospital in Japan, while six patients were treated and released.

Hospital officials reached Thursday referred questions to Muña.

A Guam judge ordered De Soto held on \$2 million bail. The prosecution requested the bail after saying the suspect committed "heinous, extreme" violence rarely seen in Guam, a tropical island about 1,500 miles south of Tokyo that is heavily dependent on tourism.

Superior Court Magistrate Judge Alberto Tolentino appointed a public defender to represent De Soto.

A video of the brief court proceedings posted online by the *Pacific Daily News* shows De Soto, wearing an orange prison jumpsuit, telling Tolentino he has no job.

Court documents posted by the newspaper say the two Japanese women stabbed to death were 81-year-old Kazuko Uehara and 29-year-old Rie Sugiyama.

Those injured with De Soto's knife

included Sugiyama's 8-month-old son. The baby is hospitalized in stable condition, the newspaper reported.

De Soto told police he wanted to hurt as many people as he could, first with his car and then with his knife, according to a declaration filed by assistant attorney general Jonathan Quan.

De Soto is charged with two counts of aggravated murder, for which he faces 15 years to life in prison. He also faces a charge of attempted aggravated murder for using a knife to attack Sugiyama's baby, and eight counts of aggravated assault.

It appeared that most of the people injured in Tuesday's attack were Japanese tourists.

Guam is well-known for scuba diving, white beaches and historic World War II battle sites, and it depends heavily on tourism—particularly from Japan—for its economy.

Japanese people accounted for 73 percent of the 1.1 million visitors to Guam in the 2011 fiscal year, according to Guam Visitors Bureau data. South Koreans made up 13 percent, followed by 4 percent from Taiwan.

NMC

From Page 1

failure to address the commission's Eligibility Requirement No. 5, which pertains to the administrative capacity.

ACCJC specifically cited NMC's failure to hire a chief financial officer, a director for information technology, and other administrative positions that affect the college's ability to meet standards. Beno said the commission is concerned that the college does not have enough staff with appropriate preparation and experience to support its operations.

It will be recalled that the CFO position was among those eliminated by Hart last year. It was later reinstated by the Board of Regents. However, the position remains vacant up to now and the CFO functions and duties are being handled by the dean of administration, a newly created position.

NMC was also found non-compliant

with Eligibility Requirement No. 13, which means NMC has not established in policy the minimum qualifications for persons who are employed as faculty members.

It also has not consistently conducted annual faculty evaluations. ACCJC found that many of the faculty graduate degrees are in teaching or education, rather than in the discipline to which they are assigned to teach.

According to Beno, all these issues were clearly identified in the 2012 evaluation team report but were not addressed by the college in its October report.

Other deficiencies

One of the commission's notable recommendations was for the Board of Regents to revisit its policy of appointing non-voting honorary regents who sit on the board and regularly engage in discussions related to policy issues.

"As these members represent faculty

senate, staff senate, and student senate groups, the practice violates accreditation standards that require board independence," said Beno, adding that the existence of these honorary regents suggests that the college council does not truly act as the advisory group to the president.

Beno said this has been identified as a concern for many years but was never addressed.

For other standards, the commission said that the student survey data used to assess learning at the college, while helpful, does not capture or adequately assess student learning.

The college was also urged to develop and consistently apply, clear criteria in determining qualifications for faculty.

The two-year rule

Based on a U.S. Department of Education mandate, a college or university must meet all standards of accreditation within the two years of receiving

a sanction of "probation" or "warning."

Because NMC has already exceeded this two-year window, Beno warned that termination of the accreditation is a sure thing for NMC in January 2014 if it still fails to address all concerns.

"Unless the commission finds during its January 2014 meeting that NMC met its burden to show that it has fully resolved the deficiencies noted in this action letter, the commission will act to terminate accreditation, effective at the end of the spring semester 2014," said Beno.

ACCJC also expressed concern about Hart's expiring contract in July this year, saying that NMC has yet to act whether to retain the current leadership or recruit a new president. Beno advised the board to immediately act on this.

Assurance

Hart, who is at an off-island conference, assured everyone that the institution will continue to address all cita-

tions by the deadline.

"Northern Marianas College has worked very hard to organize itself and to meet the required accreditation standards. I know this is not the news we were hoping for...yet let me assure the NMC employees, students, and the community that we will work hard over these next nine months to be in substantial compliance," she said in a statement yesterday.

Regents chair Juan T. Lizama, for his part, said: "We will continue to work hard to address the recommendations which specifically point to areas of weaknesses that we must improve upon."

NMC was placed on continued probation in 2010. Based on the USDOE's two-year rule, NMC should have met all standards by 2012. Before this, the college was placed either on show-cause or continued show-cause status in 2008, 2010, 2011, and 2013. NMC has been accredited by the ACCJC since 1985.

Korean Association president sued for alleged libel

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

A Korean businessman has filed a \$1-million slander and libel lawsuit against the president of the Saipan Korean Community Association for allegedly distributing throughout Saipan a publication that accuses him of, among other things, multiple rapes and sexual attacks.

Hong Kyun Kim wants the Superior Court to hold Saipan Korean Community Association president Jong Ho Lee liable for

\$500,000 in general damages and \$500,000 in punitive damages.

Kim said that Lee exposed him to hatred, contempt, ridicule, and public scorn.

"Lee's sole purpose for committing such vicious and heinous libel was an abuse of power and intended to advance his own selfish interests in the Saipan Korean Community Association," said Kim through his lawyer, Stephen J. Nutting.

Lee's counsel, Colin Thompson, said yesterday that they look forward to

their day in court.

"Truth is always a defense from libel," Thompson added.

Nutting stated in the complaint that, on Dec. 24, 2012, Lee published on standard newspaper stock a four-page news style publication with the headings "Korean Community United in Faith" and "Saipan Korean Community Association."

Nutting said the publication was distributed throughout the island and all four pages were devoted to trash-ing Kim's reputation.

The lawyer said the publication was issued in the Korean language and under the banner of the Saipan Korean Community Association.

Nutting said that, based on information and belief, the Saipan Korean Community Association did not approve the publication and that Lee abused his position within the association to gain credibility for the false and inflammatory statements.

Nutting said that other libelous statements contained in the publication are that Kim caused

the theft of a flagpole at the Commemoration Tower in Marpi; committed a mass assault on patrons within a local Korean restaurant, bribed members of the Korean association to garner their support for his candidacy as association president; and failed to adequately contribute financially to the association and the Korean community.

The lawyer said that Kim is well known for his charitable acts and efforts to improve not only the Korean community but the entire CNMI.

Nutting said a number of government agencies, including the Saipan Mayor's Office, has recognized Kim for various public works and his support for an anti-crime program.

In fact, Nutting said, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial appointed Kim as a volunteer special economic adviser.

"The numerous articles composed, printed, published, and circulated by defendant, of and concerning plaintiff, are purely fictional and untrue," he said.

Ex-airline employee, man get prison terms for theft cases

An airline employee and a man were slapped with prison sentences for stealing money in separate incidents.

In a written order last week, Wiseman Superior Court Associate Judge David A. ordered Rayburn Dolmers C. Espangel to spend six months in prison and Mario O. Sablan to 30 days in prison.

Espangel was actually sentenced to five years in prison but Wiseman suspended all except for six months, to be served without the possibility of parole. Espangel, 29, was given credit for the eight days time served. After serving his sentence, he will be placed on five years' probation.

Espangel was required to pay \$22,724 in restitution to the victim, Unlimited Services Group, a \$100 court assessment fee, and \$500 probation fee.

Espangel was also ordered to perform 200 hours of community service and to write a letter of apology to the company and his co-workers.

USG cleans aircrafts and is in charge of the operations of the former Cape Air.

Espangel pleaded guilty to theft by unlawful taking or disposition as part of a plea deal.

According to the plea deal, Espangel stole \$22,724 from his company's safe between Aug. 2012 and October 2012.

Espangel, a passenger service agent, admitted that sometime in August 2012 he began taking a portion of the money from the daily sales and would use the sales from the next day to replenish the amount he took. The amount, however, gradually became too big for him to cover up.

In Sablan's case, Wiseman sentenced him to five years in prison, all suspended except for 30 days. He was given credit for 12 days time served.

Once he gets out, Sablan will be placed on supervised probation for five years.

Sablan was ordered to pay a \$200 fine, \$100 court assessment fee, and \$500 probation fee. He was required to perform 200 hours of community service.

Wiseman noted that Sablan has no criminal history and returned the stolen money almost immediately.

"The court also acknowledges the mitigating factor that Sablan was playing the poker machine, which had an open door showing the money," Wiseman said.

Wiseman said that Sablan did not break the machine but rather found the money lying there in front of him.

Sablan pleaded guilty to theft as part of a plea deal.

Sablan and co-defendant Primo Ogarto were accused of

stealing \$876 from a poker machine at the U-Luck Poker in western Garapan on Sept. 28, 2012. (Ferdie de la Torre)

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Kiribati, Chuuk delegates to headline Flame Tree Arts Fest

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Preparations are in full swing for the 32nd Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival, which is set to host delegates from the Republic of Kiribati and Chuuk, organizers announced yesterday.

Parker Y. Yobei, overall festival committee chair, said the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture is excited to welcome visiting artists from the two Pacific islands who have confirmed their participation.

The 32nd Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival will take place this year on April 19 to 21 at the Civic Center Park in Susupe.

Yobei said the Kiribati group is composed mainly of traditional performers while the Chuuk delegation will feature local designers.

"We believe that their involvement will move our festival preparations into high gear," said Yobei. "We encourage the entire CNMI community to join us in welcoming our guests with the 'Hafa Adai' spirit."

The Flame Tree Arts Festival is the biggest outdoor arts event in the Northern Marianas. It celebrates the rich cultural heritage of the islands by exhibiting traditional and contemporary artwork from local and visiting artists and featuring interactive demonstrations.

Free to the public, the three-day festival also features live entertainment through musical and dance performances by solo and group acts and a wide selection of food.

Parker said the festival committee is made up of volunteers: Erica Trinidad for Solicitation and Budget Committee; Remy



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The 32nd Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival committee members. Clockwise, standing left to right: Gordon Marciano, Program and Entertainment Committee co-chair; Darrell Moteisou, Logistics and Enforcement Committee; executive director Angel S. Hocog of the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture; Erica Trinidad, Solicitation and Budget Committee; Parker Y. Yobei, overall festival committee chair; and Remy Buniag, Off-Island Delegates and Hospitality Committee. Not in photo is Glorina Teura, co-chair of Program and Entertainment Committee.

Buniag, Off-Island Delegates and Hospitality Committee; Gordon Marciano and Glorina Teura, Program and Entertainment Committee; Publicity Committee; and Darrell Moteisou, Logistics and Enforcement Committee.

Although the festival starts on April 19, the official opening ceremony will be held the following day, April 20, said Angel S. Hocog, executive director of the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture.

Hocog noted that this year's festivities will be highlighted by the council's continuing theme, 'Be A Part: Promote, Preserve and Perpetuate Your Culture.'

"Expect to be immersed in cultural and artistic experience during the 32nd Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival," he added.

For more information, visit the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture in Capital Hill next to the post office or call 322-9982 or 83.

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Federal review of NMI Head Start next month

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Officials of the Board of Education and the Public School System have expressed readiness for the upcoming comprehensive review of the Head Start program next month.

Head Start program director Melissa Palacios reported yesterday that a team of federal officials from the Office of Head Start in Region XI had officially notified PSS that the five-day review will take place from March 11 to 15 this year.

Palacios said the review team will specifically check school integrity, child development, degree of family engage-

ment, and thorough observation in the classrooms, among others. The team is also set to interview people and review program files.

Richard Ybarra, program specialist of the Office of Head Start Region XI, and his team were on island last month for a two-day visit. He earlier said that the upcoming tri-annual review will play a pivotal role if the federally-funded Head Start program will remain in the oversight of the school system and its board. At the time, education officials were told that an unsatisfactory result of the review will mean other individuals and groups may be offered the chance to run the program.

Ybarra's team left an exit report identifying deficiencies and concerns that Palacios said are now being addressed.

BOE chair Herman T. Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune* that next month's review is very critical for the board and the system and is optimistic of favorable results. He instructed colleagues and PSS management to ensure that all documents, records, data, and files are ready for inspection.

Guerrero said the Head Start program is an important element in the success of the PSS Pre-School to Third Grade Initiative, or P-3.

Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D., also

conveyed the system's "sense of readiness" for the upcoming review. She said the staff are diligent in addressing all team recommendations.

According to Palacios, CNMI Head Start program continues to serve its funded enrollment of 462 children, of which 47 have disabilities. She cited the program's continued compliance with the required wait list for the school year, which has a total of 137 children.

Head Start is a federal program that promotes the school readiness of children from low-income families ages birth to 5 by enhancing their cognitive, social, and emotional development.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Feb. 15, 1999

HEW resumes NMC oversight Feb. 17

The House committee on Health, Education and Welfare will resume on Wednesday its oversight on the Northern Marianas College and the government scholarship program, marking the third hearing in a series of investigation planned by the legislative panel. The hearing this week is expected to get into details on policies and operations of NMC which has come under attack in recent years due to allegations of mismanagement of funds. In its inquiry held last February 3, the panel chaired by Rep. Heinz Hofschneider noted inconsistencies in the college policies as it asked NMC officials to produce several documents, including salary structure of employees and an previous opinion from its former legal counsel clarifying its status as autonomous government agency.

CUC weighs purchase of drilling equipment

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is mulling over a request from the Tinian municipality to purchase well drilling equipment that will help in finding water sources for island residents, according to its executive director. The equipment, valued between \$200,000 to \$250,000, is part of federally funded project on Tinian involving water well drilling, rehabilitation and an overall water resource study that has been terminated due to failure by town officials to meet its financial obligations. CUC chief Timothy P. Villagomez said the municipal government is facing potential lawsuit from the federal government unless they pay their debts amounting to more than \$1 million incurred since the project began in 1991.

Feb. 15, 2000

3 House committee grill Babauta

Washington Rep. Juan Babauta faced three House committees yesterday in the first ever oversight hearing conducted by the Legislature into the Office of the CNMI Resident Representative to the United States. The oversight hearing stemmed from a financial report prepared by the House Ways and Means Committee which claimed that Mr. Babauta overspent more than \$250,000 from his Fiscal 1999 allotment. The hearing focused on the office's fund use as well as assessment on federal takeover and annual appropriations legislation pending before the U.S. Congress.

Disapproval of FTZ bill disappoints Rota mayor

Rota Mayor Benjamin T. Manglona has expressed disappointment over the disapproval of a legislation that would establish a free trade zones in the CNMI saying it is the only hope to revive the island's economy. In a press statement, Mr. Manglona said the FTZs would put the Northern Marianas ahead of its neighbors in the region in an increasingly competitive market. "It opens the door to take advantage of our Jones Act exemption," he said. Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio has returned to the Legislature the FTZ legislation due to the administration-sponsored bill's failure to address issues surrounding the use of public lands.

Feb. 15, 2001

College savings program proposed

House leaders are mulling over the creation of an organized mechanism that would financially prepare local students to pursue their postsecondary education careers within the Northern Marianas. Dubbed as the Commonwealth College Savings Program of 2001, the legislation's intent is to establish a qualified higher education tuition program to enable families save for college and other expenses through college accounts. Rep. William S. Torres, author of college savings bill, has proposed for the implementation of college accounts that would enable residents of the CNMI and other states to benefit from the tax incentive provided for qualified state tuition programs under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

Educators reject entry of more colleges into NMI

Education leaders have turned down a proposed legislation aiming to encourage the establishment of more postsecondary educational institutions in the Commonwealth for fear that the measure might destabilize the local system of regulating the entry of educational institutions. The Northern Marianas College Board of Regents, the constitutionally mandated body tasked to regulate the entry of postsecondary schools to the Commonwealth, finds the proposed measure unconstitutional. Interim BOR Chair Fermin Atalig, in a written testimony to the House Committee on Education, qualified the legislation as an attempt to deprive the regents its constitutional mandate, rights and responsibilities.



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20 Ways You Can Demonstrate Parent Leadership

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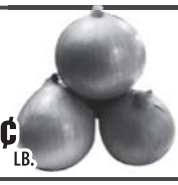
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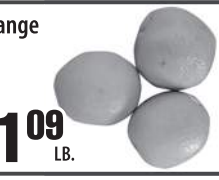
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Saipan Tribune

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The need for laughter

By RUSS MASON, M.S.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

For the better part of a decade, Russ Mason wrote for a medical journal, *Alternative & Complementary Therapies*. Prior to that, he worked at NBC in New York for 16 years, often as a writer for their television programs.



I'm sure you're familiar with Jay Leno and David Letterman, and may remember Johnny Carson, who was the king of late-night comedy. Each night, during their opening monologues, they make jokes about the events of the day, about the president, about whatever is in the news.

Millions still tune in to hear the jokes, and to laugh a little before going to bed. Laughter is healing; if you can laugh about something, then it's not quite so bad.

But here we have no comedy. There are no comedy clubs, no open mic nights, and laughs are hard to come by. Yes, Jane Mack has "Marianas Milk" cartoons in the *Marianas Variety* from time to time, and they are more wry and satirical than laugh-out-loud funny. But I am happy she is doing them. We need them, and we need more humor in general.

I did stand-up for about 20 years in New York. But I couldn't do an act here, not a good one anyway. That is because the best jokes are about the local population and what is going on. If I were to do jokes about Governor Fitiaf, or Felicidad Ogomoro, or Stanley Torres, people would take offense. Not all, but enough. The jokes would be considered in bad taste, or maybe even racist. After all, what is a white American doing making fun of Carolinian or Chamorro individuals? That is how the jokes would be perceived.

Even if a native island comedian were to do a stand-up routine about the goings-on here, it would probably not work either. That is because the family affiliations are strong, so if the comic made a joke about Ms. Ogomoro, her family members would consider it an insult. The comedian would hear about it, too.

Offense is very easily taken in the CNMI, and that is a shame. Our Commonwealth is going through momentous changes, and jokes can help ease us through the turmoil. It would be wonderful if we could have even five minutes of stand-up each night, after the 10pm KSPN-2 news, taped before a live audience somewhere. But even then, people would take the jokes personally, and not see them as only jokes.

Hey! Last night in Kagman, the twelfth Annual Beauty Pageant was held, and for the twelfth year in a row, there were no winners.

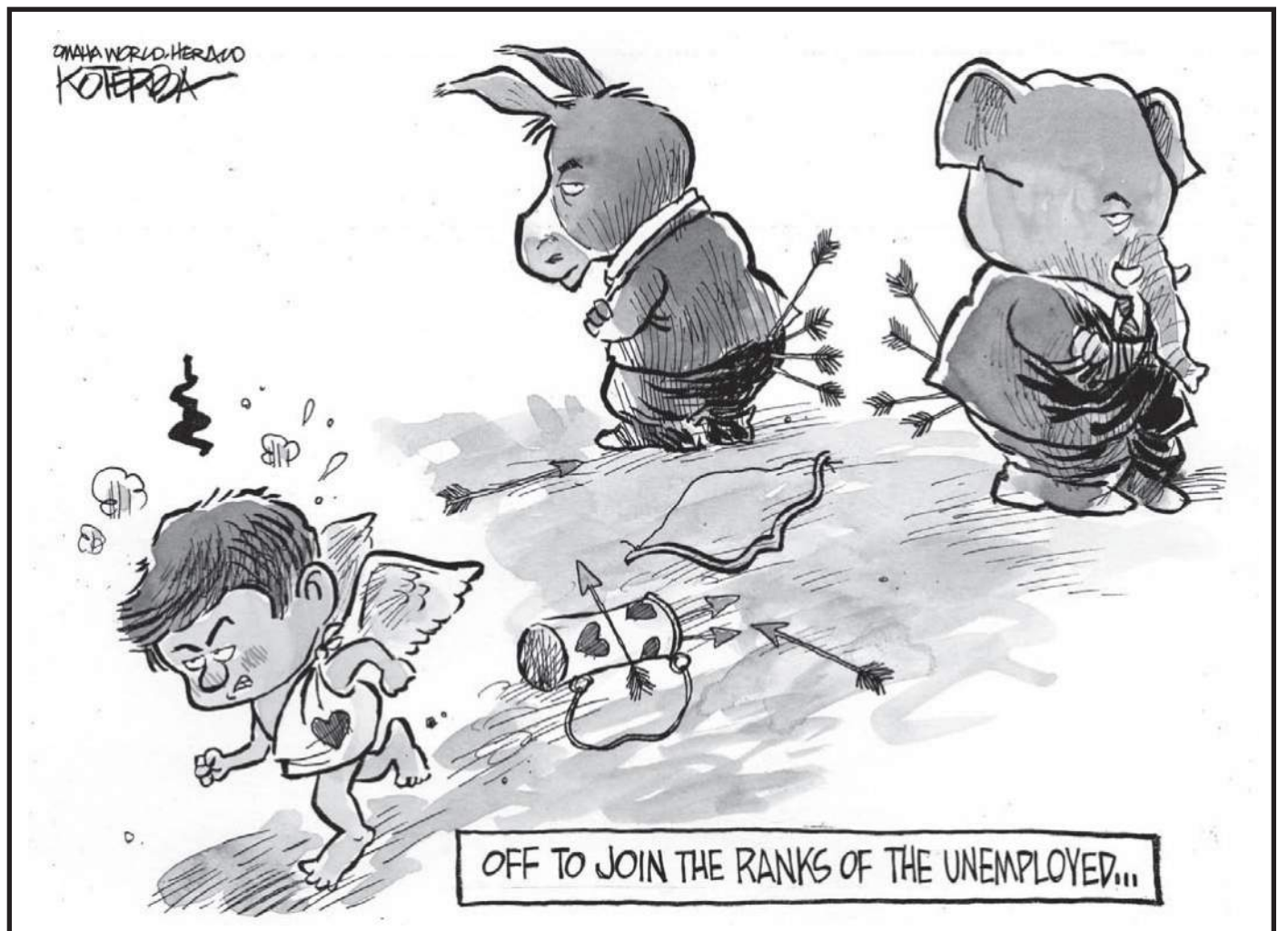
This joke might work here. It's a formula joke, but it just happened to be about Kagman. If I were back in New York, I could substitute Rochester for Kagman, and it would get a laugh. (Rochester always gets a laugh). But here, the residents of Kagman would probably think, "Why is he picking on Kagman?"

Therein lies the problem. We need jokes, and to laugh about life here, but nobody laughs if it's about them, or people they know, or even their neighborhood. No, offense is routinely taken, and the chance for a good laugh is missed.

Some years ago, my cousin, Barbara, said, "Offense can only be taken." This is true. If I tried to offend you personally by calling you a jerk, you could either laugh it off or take offense. Friends kid each other all the time, because sufficient trust has been established. But where there is no trust, there is often wariness. If you know me, I can joke with you. If you don't know me, I can't.

There are rules for comedy, also. In New York, a white comic is not allowed to tell jokes about other ethnicities. That is also true

See LAUGHTER on Page 13



Historic impeachment

The CNMI not only made news but history as well. This is the first time that its Legislature impeached its governor after 35 years of self-government. It's another towering rebuke of the four servile Republicans in the House. What does it all mean?

The impeachment measure—basically a list of accusations—now moves to the Senate. Senators must review and probe every accusation to see if it rises to the level of criminality. If the accusations are confirmed, senators must vote either to convict or acquit the governor. It takes six votes to convict.

For now, let the process take its full course. Some of the accusations would stick while others could slip through the cracks. One thing's for sure: It requires ripe intellectual acuity and integrity to complete what's predicted to be a protracted process.

Pro-impeachment lawmakers echo the sentiment that their vote depicts the conclusive and decisive demand of the multitude to end corruption and lack of transparency in government. "With economic misery where more than 6,000 people are jobless, loss of businesses prompted by the horrendous cost of utilities which in turn translate to far less revenue, all point to the failure of this administration to improve the lot of our people in the villages," relates an IR lawmaker.

Our people wanted to limit its public officials to doing "what's right," an authority further limited by the principle of the "consent of the governed." There's no spill over. That voice came with a near total sweep of a "servile" GOP soundly turned statistics last November. More overly ambitious lawmakers may be on their way out and their future rests on their disposition of the impeachment resolution. It may be pure speculation but take another ocular review of how the multitude voted last November.

The verdict from the multitude also demonstrates political maturity. The "silent majority" isn't prepared to look the other way. It has begun the long journey to recapturing and rebuilding a deserving paradise for posterity. It isn't ready to be the persistent recipient of this administration's crown jewel of depravity and subterranean economic misery, nor is it prepared to brave hugging the fading glow of a trophy chiseled with economic disaster at home on every corner.

House Republicans failed to derail the impeachment counts using "actual commission" of a crime as a basis. But this is solely the purview of the Senate. It ignored the "reasonable suspicion" set as parameters in determining the legitimacy of each count. Its position again places politics over the welfare and voice of the multitude. This view and careers of the servile few would also pass into oblivion in the next election.

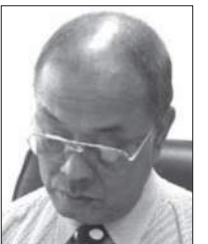
Difficult the task ahead of the NMI, recapturing our future and the responsibility for forging brighter tomorrows for our children return to the foundation of "We the people"—the multitude.

The incumbent Republican administration hasn't taken any de-

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



cisive strides to improve the lot of the people. It has lost its true north (leadership). The multitude isn't ready for another year or so of grand negligence and incompetence, panting for air in the sea of subterranean economic misery.

The consequence of mind-numbing hardship has become too hard a nut to chew. The thunderous voice of the multitude speaks volumes after six long years of being heavily battered and neglected by the man at the helm. *No mas!*

Mindfulness and leadership

There's a direct relationship in leadership with "true north" and what's known in management as "mindfulness." In short, it embraces not necessarily a celebration of your post at the pinnacle of your career, but a return to visiting people who played a role in your journey upstairs.

Indeed, few folks (at the outset of their career) plan to behave dishonestly and hurt others. "But then they started making exception to the rules 'just this once,'" according to Harvard professor Clayton Christensen, addressing this topic in his HBR article, *How Will You Measure Your Life?*

Students are advised to look from within as they plan their careers. "We are challenging students to think hard about their definition of success and what's important in their lives," according to Bill George, professor of management practice at Harvard Business School.

"Instead of viewing success as reaching a certain position or achieving a certain net worth, we encourage these future leaders to see success as making a positive difference in the lives of their colleagues, their organizations, their families, and society as a whole.

"It enables second-year MBAs to ground their careers in their beliefs, values, and principles, following the authentic leadership process described in my 2007 book, *True North*. The key is to stay grounded and authentic, face new challenges with humility, and balance professional success with more important but less easily quantified measures of personal success."

Both recommend introspective practice like meditation or prayers. "The pursuit of mindful leadership will help you achieve clarity about what is important to you and a deeper understanding

See HISTORIC on Next Page

Valentine's Day

Those chocolate crumbs on your shirt and the wilting flowers on your desk are evidence that yet another Valentine's Day has come and gone. This time around, I wondered how this gig got started in the first place. Have you ever wondered that?

I had just supposed that Valentine's was rooted in some cheesy business hustle, probably concocted by a greeting card company playing on emotions to extort more money out of consumers. Hey, that's not a bad idea.

But the story goes a lot deeper than that. Now, I'm just a guy in a beach chair digging around a jumbo, 2-lb box of bonbons to find something without those disappointing marshmallow centers. So don't come looking to me for historical scholarship, OK? For one thing, various accounts differ on details, and, for another thing, I'm more concerned with the general gist than the fine print.

We're not talking some newbie of a holiday here. "St. Valentine's Day" was established 1,517 years ago. According to Discovery.com, it was decreed by Pope Gelasius I in the year 496, specifying Feb. 14 as the date for the holiday.

Up until that point, the Romans used mid-February as some sort of fertility festival, with suitably decadent and weird behavior.

As for who Valentine's Day is actually named after, posterity seems to offer three likely candidates for the job, which is two more than my attention span can digest so I've got no idea.

But we all know who Cupid is. That arrow-shooting rascal is a Roman god. His Greek counterpart is called Eros.

Cupid's trigger-happy hijinks eventually caught up with him. He wound up infecting himself with his arrow's magic mojo. This gave

him a serious case of the hots for the goddess Psyche.

Well, nothing is ever simple with those gods. They've got issues. This time around was no exception. Cupid's mother, Venus, the goddess of love, wasn't lovey-dovey toward Psyche, and, in fact, hated her. So all sort of trouble and strife ensued.

Eventually, things did work out for Cupid and Psyche. If you're tracing bloodlines here, or, more likely, etymology, I'll note the two had a daughter named Voluptas.

Meanwhile, looking away from the West, I'll note that the Chinese have a similar day to Valentine's, and, logically enough, this is rooted in Chinese folklore, not Roman or Greek.

This day falls on the seventh day of the seventh month in the lunar calendar. This will coincide to Aug. 13 of the Western calendar this year, so, well, now you know.

This must be a pretty big deal, since this was part of the curriculum in my second semester of Chinese. Keeping in mind that this story has various accounts, here's what I remember of it:

The daughter of the Goddess of Heaven got bored with the heavens so she took a trip to earth to have a look around. She met a cowherd and they got married.

However, the Goddess didn't approve of her daughter cavorting with a lowly mortal. So the Goddess called her daughter home to the heavens, away from her earth-bound, cowherd husband.

A little bit of magic comes into play here. The cowherd used the skin of an ox to fly to the heavens. A pretty good plan, you'll agree. But it was not to succeed. The Goddess scribed a boundary in the heavens that kept the cowherd and her daughter apart.

That boundary is part of the starry band of the Milky Way galaxy.

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com.
His column runs every Friday.



The cowherd and the daughter are signified by the stars of Altair and Vega, which are very bright and high in the sky during summer.

On the seventh day of the seventh month each year, the magpies (that's a type of bird) fly up to create a bridge to breach the boundary, thus allowing the husband and wife to be reunited for a day.

So there you have it.

I think we can safely say that the wisdom of the ages agrees that this love stuff is bad news for all involved.

More wisdom: History.com says that in the 1840s one Esther A. Howland began selling the first mass-produced valentines (cards) in America. Currently, about 85 percent of the 1 billion cards sent every year are bought by women. A billion cards? How can that be? I surmise we're looking at multiple card purchases by each consumer.

That's an intriguing notion, eh? People must be buying jumbo-packs of a few dozen "You're My One and Only" cards.

Well, we've ranged the world, the heavens, and thousands of years of background here, thus proving that if you root around in a 2-lb box of chocolates, you never know what you're going to get.

Kilili responds to Obama's State of the Union

Editor's Note: Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) issued the following response to President Barack Obama's State of the Union address, delivered before a joint session of Congress on Tuesday night in Washington, D.C.

Today, President Obama spoke directly to the American people about the progress we are making and about the work we have to do to solve our nation's most pressing challenges. I was impressed by the President's priorities: reducing the deficit in a way that is responsible and balanced; reversing the rising tide of climate change; enacting comprehensive immigration reform; and preventing gun violence.

Now it is up to Congress to heed the President's call to action. In particular we have to avert the looming sequester—across-the-board cuts in spending that were intended to be such a terrible way to manage our money that Congress would never let them happen. Yet today many in Congress have given up on finding a better solution.

I agree with the President that the sequester is "a really bad idea." We are going to be cutting education, training, and research into new forms of energy at precisely the time we should be increasing these investments in our future prosperity.

That is why I support the President's call for universal access to pre-kindergarten and all-day kindergarten. I truly believe that our people are our most important resource and that the earlier we begin our children's education the better off we all will be.

And we cannot ask our *man'amko* who depend on Medicare and Social Security to take the hit. The President said it well: We cannot promise more than we can pay for, but we have to keep the promises we already made to our senior citizens.

We will have to find ways to make the social safety net more affordable. We will have to trim defense and domestic spending. We will have to reform the tax code, closing the loopholes carved out by special interests—like the subsidies we give the oil and gas industry—and making sure that the wealthy pay their fair share.

By GREGORIO KILILI C. SABLAN

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan (Ind-MP) is the CNMI's delegate to the U.S. Congress.



All of this will require compromise and thoughtful give and take. It might be easier to give up on the gridlock and settle for the status quo. Instead, President Obama challenged us to set our sights high. Today he called on all of us to put aside partisanship to find solutions that, even if not perfect, keep our nation moving forward.

I, for one, am energized by the President's leadership and look forward to making real progress over the next two years in Congress.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Youth and family activities needed

Another weekend comes and a holiday weekend yet. I have to ask myself: Will this be another family weekend at home?

I call for the government, community, present and future businessmen, and women to afford more opportunities for our children to be active and be outdoors, whether it's free or something parents will have to pay for.

Last weekend I went to a business establishment where my parents took me many weekends during my youth, only to find out that due to the hard economic times the establishment does not turn on the electricity nor accepts willing-to-pay patrons to use their "area" because of the cost of electricity associated with opening the "area" to just five paying customers. We sat in the area and ate our meals in the dark without A/C nor a fan. We waited an hour after eating until more patrons showed up to make the minimum 10 people required for the business to turn on their electricity. I should have left. I was upset. But it was an activity I promised my family we'd do. We visited their arcade area where I once used to play Galaga and Street Fighter, but that area has now been shut off from customers due to the high cost of electricity. They wouldn't even sell me the old video game machines.

The same Sunday afternoon, I took my family to a hotel that had

an arcade, only to find out that the establishment has closed their arcade area. "So let's eat then swim instead," I said, but the hotel had changed their pool policy for "guests only" when paying restaurant customers were allowed to use it in the past. It was OK, the weather was fine, the sun was beautiful and the beach water was warm and refreshing.

The point I am trying to make is that the CNMI currently lacks family-oriented activities or establishments for our youths to go that:

- 1) do not serve alcoholic beverages to minors nor have family members congregating while consuming alcohol in front of minors;
- 2) get the youth off of their electronics, TV, cell phone, or PSS-issued laptops; and
- 3) where the youth can socialize other than school.

Group sports is great if you're willing to commit every weekend but there are parents like me who want something to do just one weekend at a time or during holidays. Sure, I take my child to the beach, pool, movies, restaurants, hotels, waterparks, street market, library, and to other friend's homes. I have placed my child in soccer, jiu jitsu, dance, karate, ukulele class, piano class, after-school tutoring, and youth church activities. At home, we play pool, bas-

ketball, bake, do science experiments, create crafts and film videos.

I pray to have my only child grow up into a well-rounded individual and the CNMI was, and still is, a wonderful place to raise kids. I was born and raised here and this is the island home I returned to after college to contribute my learned skills and talents. It is the same place we want future generations to come back to and raise their families as they contribute to the local economy. You wonder why they don't come back. You wonder why some stay, become obese, get pregnant young, binge drink, smoke weed, use "ice," burglarize, vandalize, etc. It's because there's not much to do positively, actively, and as a family. And may I say: CUC and governor, you are killing businesses.

We are part of the problem and the solution. There is you. There is me. Let's do something about this, CNMI. I have a business license if needed but prefer not to use mine. I do not have capital to invest. I do not have a commercial space or large empty land. I do have creative ideas. I have some time. I have a family. I want to be a part of the solution. And if you are an organization, government agency or business that provides activities for our youth and families, please share it. Market it. Post it online. Share it with the media. I'm even willing to create a website or blog to collectively post these activities for the community to be aware of. The families of the CNMI need us. Email me at hiponia@facebook.com.

Jeaniffer H. Cubangbang

As Terlaje, Saipan

HISTORIC

From Page 10

of the world around you. Mindfulness will help you clear away the trivia and needless worries about unimportant things, nurture passion for your work and compassion for others, and develop the ability to empower the people you represent.

Seems a missing working vocabulary here among the "we few" elected elite, true?

■■■

Our sails are torn

Seven years ago I headed Fitial's committee-to-elect, loaded with enthusiasm and conviction to make a difference by embracing the concept of "wealth and jobs creation."

Three years ago, however, I made the intuitive decision to resign as secretary of DPL, sensing that something's gone woefully wrong somewhere. The commitment to improve the lot of the multitude disappeared into the sinkhole of negligence.

"Wealth and jobs creation" morphed and devolved into real-time poverty. I'm still appalled at the tidal shift that included serious breach of integrity or a shift from real-time partnership in

collective progress to one of unilateral acquisition of the power of corruption. Is it really that easy ignoring the virtue of integrity over greed for the want of more power beyond the "consent of the governed"?






Seven years later (today), I sit in my veranda quizzing whether I deserve the any iota of humiliation perpetrated by this administration I helped into office nearly a decade ago. I wasn't a part of the mess so I'd leave it at their front door.

How sad the wind. Fitial did nothing but rip his own sail navigating a troubled canoe and ready to take a permanent dive into the deepest part of the Pacific Ring of Fire!

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
				
Partly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 25 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲85° ▼75°	▲85° ▼76°	▲84° ▼76°	▲84° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Cloudy	▲84 ▼77
Palau	Showers	▲84 ▼77
Yap	Cloudy	▲87 ▼76
Chuuk	Showers	▲85 ▼79
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲86 ▼80
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲86 ▼80
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲86 ▼80

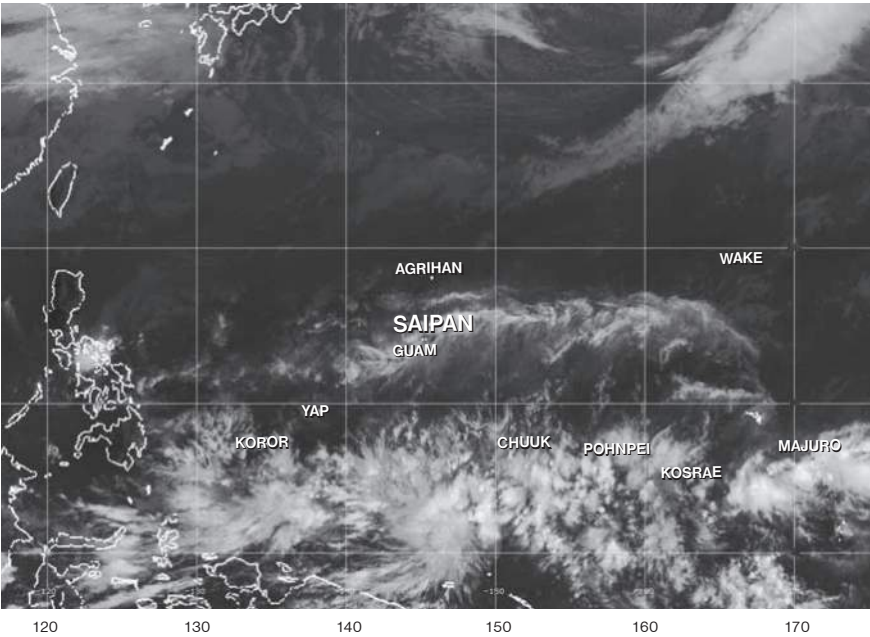
Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲74 ▼65
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲39 ▼22
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲70 ▼66
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲81 ▼70
London	Fog	▲49 ▼39
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲77 ▼50
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲86 ▼77
Melbourne	Sunny	▲89 ▼65
Miami	Showers	▲73 ▼63
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲50 ▼34
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲42 ▼33
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲48 ▼35
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲44 ▼28
Rome	Sunny	▲56 ▼40
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲59 ▼42
San Francisco	Sunny	▲71 ▼50
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲32 ▼21
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲44 ▼31
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲58 ▼37

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
4:56 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet
10:54 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
5:49 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.4 Feet
11:40 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2013

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A near equatorial trough runs from west of 1N130E to a circulation southeast of Chuuk near 1N145E to end at EQ156E. This trough and circulation and convergent trades northeast and east of these features are producing scattered to numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms south of Koror, Yap, Chuuk, around Pohnpei, over Kosrae, south of Kwajelein, and near Majuro between the equator and 7N from 130E to east of 180E. A cold front runs from 25N157E to 22N148E then continues as a stationary front to 22N141E. Scattered showers are found along and within 200 miles north of this boundary including Minami Tori Shima and Iwo To island.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:42 AM	6:21 PM
Saturday	6:41 AM	6:21 PM
Sunday	6:41 AM	6:21 PM
Monday	6:40 AM	6:22 PM
Tuesday	6:40 AM	6:22 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	9:52 AM	10:43 PM
Saturday	10:35 AM	11:34 PM
Sunday	11:18 AM	
Monday	12:03 PM	12:24 AM
Tuesday	12:50 PM	1:13 AM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

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- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

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- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF FEB. 5, 2013

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) UA5070 4:35am 5:25am 2, 4, 6, 7 UA5062 4:40am 5:30am 1, 3, 5 UA5068 8:25am 9:15am Daily UA5074 11:10am 12:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7 UA5076 3:10pm 4:00pm Daily UA5078 6:55pm 7:45pm Daily UA5072 9:45pm 10:35pm Daily	GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN UA 5069 2:45am 3:35am 2, 4, 6, 7 UA5071 7:05am 7:55am Daily UA5073 9:50am 10:40am 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 UA5075 1:45pm 2:35pm 1, 4, 5, 7 UA5077 5:35pm 6:25pm Daily UA5079 8:20pm 9:10pm Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) DL287 6:00am 8:40am Daily DL285 6:35am 9:15am 1, 5, 7 DL297 4:25pm 7:20pm Daily	ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN UA5062 3:35am 4:10am 1, 3, 5 UA5038 10:55am 11:30am 6
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX) OZ119 4:00am 6:40am Daily	NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN DL298 10:25am 3:00pm Daily DL286 7:40pm 12:15am+1 4, 6, 7 DL288 8:40pm 1:15am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) OZ608 3:10am 6:20am 4, 6, 7 OZ608 3:30am 6:40am 3	OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN OZ120 9:50pm 2:20am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) OZ606 2:10am 6:00am 1 OZ606 2:40am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ119 4:00am 11:20am Daily via KIX OZ604 3:20pm 7:10pm Daily	BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN OZ607 9:00pm 1:50am+1 3, 5, 6 OZ607 9:35pm 2:25am+1 2
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) OZ606 2:10am 6:00am 1 OZ606 2:40am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ119 4:00am 11:20am Daily via KIX OZ604 3:20pm 7:10pm Daily	SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN OZ603 9:00am 2:20pm Daily OZ120 7:10pm 2:20am+1 Daily via KIX OZ605 7:40pm 1:00am+1 7 OZ605 8:10pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) 3U8648 6:00am 8:35am 1, 4, 5, 7	SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN 3U8647 10:30pm 4:30am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK) MU7108 3:50am 7:40am 1, 5	BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN MU7107 7:40pm 2:50am+1 4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) 3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6	GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN 3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-VLADIVOSTOK (VVO) XF1734 11:55am 5:10pm 5	VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)-SAIPAN XF1733 8:00pm 12:05am+1 4
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) OZ606/701 2:10am 11:15am 1 OZ606/701 2:40am 11:15am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 UA5070/191 4:35am 10:00am 6 via GUM UA5070/191 4:40am 10:00am 3 DL287/173 6:00am 10:25pm Daily via NRT UA5076/183 3:10pm 9:30pm 2, 5 via GUM UA5076/183 3:10pm 9:50pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM OZ604/703 3:20pm 11:00pm Daily via ICN UA5072/PR111 9:45pm 7:45am+1 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN OZ704/603 12:10am 2:20pm Daily via ICN DL172/288 8:05am 1:15am+1 Daily via NRT UA190/5077 10:55am 6:25pm 3, 6 via GUM UA190/5079 10:55am 9:10pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ702/605 12:30pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/605 12:30pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN PR110/UA5072 10:15pm 7:55am+1 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM UA184/5071 10:55pm 7:55am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM UA184/5071 11:59pm 7:55am+1 2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) OZ606/721 2:10am 11:50am 1 via ICN OZ606/721 2:40am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA5076/147 3:10pm 10:30pm 1, 5 via GUM OZ604/749 3:20pm 11:00pm Daily via ICN	HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN OZ746/603 12:30am 2:20pm Daily via ICN OZ722/605 1:15pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ722/605 1:15pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN UA180/5071 11:25pm 10:40am+1 1 via GUM UA180/5077 11:25pm 6:25pm+1 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan							
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	Tinian-Saipan			
Saipan-Rota				FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Open letter to CDA board members

Contrary to the selective amnesia of Diego at your Feb. 6, 2013, meeting, the Surfrider project is listed by the CDA, based on the Investment Incentive Act of 2000 as amended, as being "among the activities targeted by the [Qualifying Certificate] Program." Surfrider is eligible for a certificate under the existing category "Resort Hotels and Condominiums."

It was disingenuous for an opponent of the application to use the "this-is-my-island" card; similarly for another opponent to question Triple J's sense of corporate responsibility. Ged-out-uh-here—that is just petty and small-minded.

While taxes is indeed one way to support government services, it is not the only way. In addition to the huge volume of taxes Triple J pays, one example of the many evidences of its corporate responsibility is Triple J's providing a motor vehicle gratis, free of charge, to the government for 18 months to support government public service. Shame on those fellows for taking such cheap shots at an overwhelmingly proven son of the CNMI.

One opponent said he would be embarrassed to request a QC. This is a culturally sincere and therefore understandable position. *Mama lau*, shame, would indeed be the appropriate

response should he make such request, and if the Investment Incentive Act did not exist. But the IIA does exist. It serves both as an NMI invitation and gives honor to investors who accept. The Surfrider request arose from a long experience in the CNMI, which teaches that true shame and disrespect of the culture also comes from rejecting, refusing, and not accepting a QC invitation, which actually is an incentive offer of island hospitality.

Commonwealth Development Authority board members, *haji na' an-mu*? What is your name? Its meaning? Collectively, you represent the "Commonwealth" as you serve the public

purpose "to stimulate economic development in the Northern Mariana Islands." Your understanding of "development," fortunately, may be as varied as your number and as individual as your backgrounds. You seven represent the entire Commonwealth and, personally, each of you offers an ever-renewing hope for CNMI growth, expansion, progression, improvement, development. Your "authority," power, potency, and jurisdiction lie in each of you being a member of an established agency of the people, by the people, and for the people—an honor that carries with it the responsibility to make present decisions

about the destiny of the NMI.

The Investment Incentive Act of 2000 "authorizes the granting of rebates and/or abatements up to one hundred percent for a period of up to 25 years." It and Article 11, Section 6(c) of the CNMI Constitution task you to diligently "assess means of improving business and investment activities for the islands." You have the strongest roots and legal foundation possible to act timely on Surfrider's application. *Sa'hafa* a two-week delay when an expedited teleconference can conserve time and money and would be adequate to approve without delay this economic development project

for reliably growing the Commonwealth?

Please act with dispatch to help our islands rise from a sense of shame to re-establish ourselves as a strong island economic superpower. A tsunami of opportunity will be created. What an awesome moment each of you has to exercise the power given to you to lead the Commonwealth in reaffirming its vision of economic restoration and greatness.

Thank you in advance for your faith in and approval of the Surfrider application.

John B. Joyner
San Roque, Saipan

LAUGHTER

From Page 10

here. But of course other ethnicities can make jokes about white people, and that is allowed. Richard Pryor was the master of this; Chris Rock and Dave Chappell also. Lenny Bruce was able to do a routine, "How to Relax Your Colored Friends at Parties," because he was satirizing the average white person's reaction to meeting a black man at a party. It was devastating and

on-point.

When Michael Richards ("Kramer") did a routine about black people in a nightclub, he was not only vilified, but his reputation was forever tarnished. He said things that a comic, or any decent person, should never say. He crossed the line, and he is paying the price.

But a good joke is not an attack. Rather, it is calling attention to things we may think but have not yet acknowledged. Here is an example.

I love Italian women. Actually, I like any woman with a

mustache.

I wish I could remember the guy who said it, he was awfully funny. The audiences loved him too. Nobody took offense, not even the Italian woman in the audience. They mostly elbowed each other and giggled.

But if someone were to transpose that joke to being about Chamorro women, there would be no, or very few, laughs. If a Chamorro comedian told it, then it might possibly fare better. If a Carolinian comedian told it, well I don't know what the reaction

would be. It's still a good joke, regardless.

Don Rickles was merciless. He made fun of everybody, every ethnicity, the president, the guys in the band, anybody who was in the room. But, at the end of his show, he reminded the audience that what he said were just jokes; that we are all part of the same human family. If we can laugh together, without taking offense, then we have set aside our wariness long enough to have a little fun. That is what we need to do here.

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The Bridge Project @ 287-7037.

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<http://bridge.marianas.us>

**Next class begins
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SPACE IS LIMITED**

The Bridge Project is funded through a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs and the NMI Department of Commerce

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**NOAA
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corals

NOAA announces public hearings to be held for the proposed rule to list 66 coral species as threatened or endangered under the U.S. Endangered Species Act.

Public hearings will be held at the following locations on the date and time provided:

Guam Hilton, Hagatna
202 Hilton Road, Tumon Bay, Guam 96913
February 11, 2013 at 5:00 pm.

Multipurpose Room on Beach Road, Susupe
Beach Road, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950
February 12, 2013 at 5:00 pm.

Fleming Hotel, Tinian
P.O. Box 68 Tinian, MP 96952
February 13, 2013 at 5:00 pm.

Mayor's Office, Rota
Tatachog Road, Rota, CNMI 96951
February 15, 2013 at 5:00 pm.

Each hearing will include an initial town hall style meeting for the public to review materials and ask questions, followed by a formal hearing to submit public testimony. The full text of the proposed rule and supplemental documents can be found at www.regulations.gov or at www.fpir.noaa.gov/PRD/prd_coral.html#supplemental_docs

**For a full schedule of the public hearings please visit:
www.fpir.noaa.gov**

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VALENTINE TREAT

◀ Co-workers of the debonair Andy Del Mundo give gratitude for almost a decade of his traditional giving of roses during Valentine's Day.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Food stamp funding for this fiscal year under negotiation

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Although fiscal year 2013 already started in October last year, new funding for the government's food stamp program has yet to be finalized, according to Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Melvin Faisao Wednesday.

Faisao disclosed that negotiations are still ongoing for a new "memorandum of understanding" for the current fiscal year.

For the moment, the program is using carryover money from fiscal year 2012.

The Nutrition Assistance Program, more commonly known as food stamp, was approved a budget of \$12.148 million in fiscal year 2012, of which \$741,373 remains to be spent, Faisao said.

"Last month, I officially informed the Finance Department to draw these carry-over funds until exhausted, to pay for [fiscal year] 2013 benefits effectively immediately while the new MOU is still being negotiated," Faisao told *Saipan Tribune*.

He pointed out that the federal law that established the national NAP authorizes the use of unspent funds for the next program year.

The program has 3,518 total household cases as of January, which translates to 9,522 individual beneficiaries on Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and Northern Islands.

In the absence of a final budget for NAP in fiscal year 2013, Faisao said there will be no changes in the amount of benefits that will be disbursed to eligible clients.

For program beneficiaries who have been receiving lesser amounts, Faisao explained that among the elements factored in the calculation of their benefits is their inclusion in the Supplemental Security Income with the federal Social Security program.

NAP benefits are also determined by the number of people in a household, income and assets, and expenses for items such as housing and utilities.

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Altima Coupe	BC100556	Black	\$4,000.00	Ranger XL	BPA9274	SOLD Silver	\$4,000.00
HONDA	STOCK #	Color	Discount	Ranger XL	BPA9274	SOLD Silver	\$4,000.00
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Civic EX	CE005271	Black	\$3,000.00	Ranger Sport	BPA526	SOLD Silver	\$4,000.00
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Kilili renews push for an AMP annex on Tinian

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) yesterday introduced legislation anew that authorizes a Tinian Annex for the American Memorial Park. Sablan introduced the legislation in the previous Congress and the House Natural Resources Committee recommended it for passage by the full House. Now Sablan hopes to get the bill back through the committee again quickly so there will more time for the House to act on the measure and send it to the Senate.

In his introductory remarks, Sablan explained the importance of establishing an extension of the American Memorial Park on Tinian. "Despite the critical role of Tinian and its airfields [in bringing an end to World War II], today there is no repository on

the island for artifacts recovered from the vast military sites that were quickly abandoned at the end of the conflict. Nor is there any location at which residents and visitors to Tinian can obtain adequate information about the historically significant events that occurred there.

"The proposed Tinian Annex would fill this gap. The Annex would have both a curatorial and an interpretive function. And, as conceived, the Annex would accomplish these purposes by building on National Park Service resources and infrastructure already established to manage the American Memorial Park and largely supported by a trust fund."

Sablan also recognized that the Department of Defense has

said that it will seek additional funding to support a historical center on Tinian and that his bill contemplated the use of public lands provided by the local government to help share the costs of the Tinian Annex.

In the 112th Congress Sablan introduced his Tinian Annex bill on March 15, 2011. The bill was referred to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands, which held a hearing on May 17, 2012. Three weeks later, on June 7, the full Natural Resources Committee adopted Sablan's bill without amendment and ordered it favorably reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent. It was placed on the Union Calendar. With that history the bill has a chance to move out of Committee more quickly in this, the 113th, Congress.

In his statement on the bill Sablan emphasized the importance of prompt action. "For decades after World War II the historically significant areas of the island remained relatively undisturbed," he explained. "The U.S. military leased two-thirds of Tinian and there were only occasional training exercises on these lands.

"But more recently, as U.S. forces have begun to be reconfigured and realigned in the Pacific region, the tempo of activity on Tinian has increased. Lands are being developed for firing ranges, encampments sites are being enlarged, and the airfields of the 1940s are being reconstructed as part of the military's ongoing readiness exercises.

"Although the people of the Northern Mariana Islands certainly support this increased

activity and are proud to have a role in our nation's defense, we are also concerned that historically important artifacts that may be unearthed over the coming decades of stepped-up training will be discarded and lost without a nearby repository for their preservation.

"We are concerned, too, that because this military activity will at times necessarily limit physical access to large parts of the island. Tinian residents and visitors will need some alternative, virtual means of learning about the role of Tinian North Field, where the atomic bomb carrying B-29s, Enola Gay and Bock's Car, lifted off and about other sites of historic significance."

Sablan quoted U.S. Marine Corps Chaplain Lt. David Jeltema, who was on Tinian last September accompanying a Marine expeditionary unit training there. Lt. Jeltema said the

visiting Marines were in awe to be in such a historically significant location and viewed Tinian as "hallowed ground." Tinian's North Field is one of those places he said he wished more people could see, "so that we can remember the tremendous power the military has and realize what an incredible responsibility it also has."

Sablan said that Jeltema had highlighted one of the many important lessons of history that could be gained by any visitor to the Tinian Annex of the American Memorial Park.

Without the facility, however, Sablan expressed concern that "we may be losing a little bit of our nation's and our islands' history, day by day."

The congressman asked the House to move quickly to approve the American Memorial Park Tinian Annex Act "for the benefit of the future and in honor of the past." (PR)

REAC inspection on Rota postponed

The Real Estate Assessment Center inspection scheduled last month on Rota's Liyo subdivision was postponed anew.

Kimo Rosario, manager of the Marianas Housing Corp.'s Program and Housing Division, informed the agency's board that the delay is due to the limited flights to Rota.

The inspection on the Rota subdivision was originally scheduled in September, during which REAC inspector William Wong also inspected Saipan's Mihaville and Koblerville, which both scored 88 out of the 100-point system, and Tinian's Broadway subdivision, which garnered 97 points.

Because of the lack of flights, the Rota inspection was moved

to January 2013.

Rosario said they are ready for the inspection any time, having done their own inspection.

The Liyo subdivision has a total of 30 units, of which only 21 are occupied.

"I'm confident we're going to get a good rating because we've done major work in addressing all previous deficiencies," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Rosario noted that the agency made sure that essential appliances such as refrigerator and electrical range are working and that the occupied units have power.

"If a family is living in a unit and there's no power, then the unit automatically fails because it's unsafe and unsanitary," he explained. (Clarissa V. David)

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

Welcome to the Christian world and happy first birthday to our little princess, Maria Venice Enriquez, who will be celebrating her birthday and christening on Feb. 16, 2013. May you grow up to be wonderful, brilliant, God fearing, respectful and humble. May you be blessed by our Lord everyday and forever. We love you so much! Greetings come from Dad, Mom and your brother Caleb.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy first birthday to our princess, Keana-lise Arianne, who will be celebrating her special day tomorrow, Feb. 16, 2013! May the good Lord continue to bless you with many more years to come, filled with lots of love and happiness! We love you very much! From Jylon, Ardonn, and Aiyana.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday to our kumaire Josephine R. Agulto! May you be blessed with many more birthdays to come. Enjoy your special day! Greetings coming out from Mel, Eugene, and kids.



Happy, happy birthday to Valentino Gatchalian! May you have all the fortune and strength to carry on in the other half of the century that is waiting for you. Happy birthday, *hari ng padala!* From the Hernandez family and friends!



Happy birthday to my niece, Bernadette Joyce Montano, who will be celebrating her third birthday on Feb. 17, 2013! Greetings come from Tita Jane and family.

PRESIDENT'S DAY

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Autism Society receives over \$2K from Hyatt

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Hyatt Regency Saipan presented a check worth \$2,345 to the Autism Society of the CNMI in a brief ceremony yesterday.

Hotel executives led by general manager Nick Nishikawa handed to ASCNMI board president Elena Sutton the check donation, which represents the amount raised by Hyatt Regency Saipan during a benefit dinner hosted on Dec. 1, 2012, in celebration of the hotel's 32nd anniversary.

"It is our duty to support the community," said Nishikawa. "We try our best to raise funds for charitable groups, especially since the economy is bad."

Luis Villagomez, assistant manager for marketing commu-

nications, explained that Hyatt's anniversary served as a vehicle for them to raise funds under the international hotel brand's corporate responsibility platform called Hyatt Thrive.

Villagomez disclosed plans to hold the anniversary dinner as an annual fundraiser that will be called *Corason Oro* or "Heart of Gold," to be hosted every Dec. 1. Different organizations will be chosen to benefit. The criteria for determining the beneficiary have yet to be determined.

Sutton expressed appreciation to Hyatt Regency Saipan for its efforts to raised much needed funds for the nonprofit group.

"We usually do that on our own. That's why it's very surprising and very touching that Hyatt was willing to raise money for us," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

Sutton said they plan to use the donation for a self-advocacy summer camp that the ASCNMI plans to organize.

She said the two-week camp is part of their efforts to train individuals who have been diagnosed with autism to become more responsible and independent. Participants will also be educated on their rights so that they can also help their peers.

Among the camp's activities are those that focus on arts and crafts since part of self-advocacy is to discover and promote one's skills and talents.

The ASCNMI is dedicated to promoting, protecting, and advocating for the rights of individuals with autism or related spectrum disorders or other disabilities in the Commonwealth.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Hyatt Regency Saipan executives led by general manager Nick Nishikawa, left, presents the \$2,345 donation to Autism Society of the CNMI board president Elena Sutton during a brief ceremony yesterday afternoon.

5th Annual A Walk to Remember in honor of "JP" John Pangelinan

On Saturday, February 23, 2013, Tan Holdings is once again sponsoring a three-mile walk and fund-raiser in honor of and in dedication to the memory of our former Tan Holdings executive, John "JP" Pangelinan. The walk also aims to raise funds for the Marianas March Against Cancer.

Registration is \$5 per person, unless you are an employee wherein the company will pay for your fee. The walk will start by the Beach Road Pavilion in front of JP Center. Refreshments, raffle prizes, and entertainment will be available at the Susupe Beach Park finish line.

Registration forms are available at the Saipan Tribune or may be requested from Becky Tenorio at becky_tenorio@tanholdings.com or by calling 235-2440.



Immigration forum on Sunday

An immigration forum hosted by U.S. Pinoys for Good Governance Marianas chapter will be held on Sunday, Feb. 17, from 3pm to 6pm at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.

Attorney Loida Nicolas Lewis, national chairperson of the U.S. Pinoys for Good Governance and a former attorney general for 10 years of Immigration and Naturalization Services, now USCIS, is the guest speaker.

Lewis is an American entrepreneur who served as chair and CEO of TLC Beatrice International, a \$2-billion multinational food company, from 1994-2000. She assumed leadership of one of the largest companies in the U.S. after the death of her husband, Wall Street financier Reginald F. Lewis, who was named by *Forbes Magazine* as among the 400 wealthiest Americans in 1992.

The public is invited to attend the forum, especially Filipinos and other foreign workers in the CNMI.

Admission is \$5. Proceeds will go to the prizes of the winners of the Essay Contest on West Philippine Sea launched by the USP4GG Marianas chapter.

The tickets bear the control numbers and official original

signature of the organizer. Participants will have a chance to win different prizes that will be raffled after the forum. Holders of the tickets are advised to keep their tickets.

Tickets are available at the following outlets and sellers: Cargo Express, KWAU Radiocom at the Marianas Business Plaza, Western Union and Islander Mini Mart across PIC in San Antonio, ASKS Beauty

Parlor in Garapan, Island Floral and Gifts across Kanoa Hotel in Susupe and H&R Block in Beach Road, Garapan. The authorized sellers of the tickets are Dr. Celia B. Lamkin, Gerry Malit, Rosendo Maceda, Marie Balleros, Liberty Sayson, Nomer Arcangel, RV Caberos, Fanny dela Rosa, Morena Nava, Eddie Belocora, Edgar Genobaten, and Philip Canuto of Island Florals and Gifts.

The US Pinoys for Good Governance is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization based in New York headed by Lewis, national president Rodel Rodis and legal counsel Ted Laguatan.

For more information, call USP4GG Marianas chapter's Dr. Celia Lamkin at 288-1714 or email her at celia.lamkin@yahoo.com. (USP4GG)



Lewis

Tinian Movie Night tonight

Tinian residents are invited to a Friday Movie Night today, Feb. 15, 2013, at 6:30pm. The event, hosted by the Northern Marianas College's College Access Challenge Grant program, will be held at the Antonio M. Borja Amphitheatre, Natibu Park.

Aside from the feature film *Battleship*, the pre-movie activities will feature a 15-minute college awareness presentation about preparing for college (college success, student

life, financial aid, and time and money management, etc.).

The event is free and open to the public. Refreshments and snacks will be sold by vendors. Please note that the film is rated PG-13, which means that minors under the age of 13 must be accompanied by parents or guardians.

If you have any questions, contact Hedwig Hofschneider of CACG at 234-5498 Ext. 1346 or Maria Aguon of NMC Tinian at 433-0649. (NMC)

4-year delay in Marine Monument co-management deal

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidEE_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial brought to the attention of three federal agencies a four-year delay in the implementation of a co-management term of a 2009 agreement establishing a Marianas Trench Marine National Monument within CNMI waters.

The governor wrote separate Jan. 10 letters to acting U.S. Commerce Secretary Rebecca Blank, Council on Environmental Quality chair Nancy Sutley, and outgoing Interior Secretary Ken Salazar on the matter.

"This agreement concerns our vital, world renowned Marianas Trench and the initiative to establish a Marianas Trench Marine National Monument within our waters. Today, I kindly request your assistance in bringing the conceptual goals of the agree-

ment to fruition," Fitial said in his separate letters.

As of yesterday, it's not known whether the agencies have responded to the governor's letters.

Fitial said the 2008 agreement was between the CNMI and the United States, "negotiated in good faith through the White House Council of Environmental Quality."

While there was some degree of initial resistance toward the issues of co-management, decision-making and veto authority, Fitial said a similar arrangement "is already in place and operating successfully for the Hawaii marine monument."

His appointees to the inter-governmental MTMNM Advisory council have already approached their colleagues in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and

Department of Defense for support to implement the co-management term of the agreement.

Since there has been no progress to date, Fitial said he was urged by Susan White of USFWS and Lisa Croft of NOAA to seek support from the heads of Commerce, Interior, and CEQ, "given that this is an intergov-

ernmental matter."

White is USFWS's monument superintendent/refuge project leader, Pacific Reefs National Wildlife Refuge Complex, while Croft is deputy regional administrator for NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service's Pacific Islands Regional Office.

Fitial also asked for transmis-

sion of CEQ's response to the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's October 2008 letter to then CEQ chair James Connoughton.

"If a previous response is not able to be located, then I kindly request that the current CEQ leadership look into the issue of co-management and provide a response accordingly," the gov-

ernor said.

On Jan. 6, 2009, then President George Bush established the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument.

The marine monument spans over 480 miles and incorporates approximately 95,216 square miles within three units in the Mariana Archipelago and contains some of the nation's most unique and pristine marine environments.

EMO warns of hazardous surf

The CNMI Emergency Management Office reiterated yesterday its small craft advisory and extended it to 6pm Saturday.

EMO said that large trade-wind waves and swell will bring hazardous surf to east facing shores for the next couple of days.

"Seas 10 feet or greater and sustained winds of 22 knots or more are expected to produce conditions hazardous to small craft," EMO said.

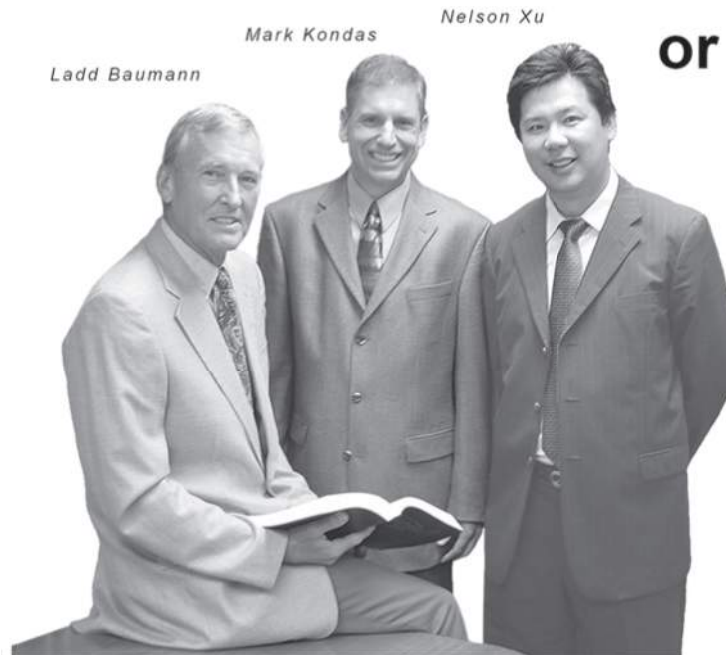
Along east facing reefs, ex-

pect hazardous surf of 11 and 13 feet on Friday, then falling back to 10 to 12 feet Friday night into Saturday morning. Surf is expected to subside to below hazardous levels by late Saturday.

The public is urged to avoid venturing near exposed reefs and beaches, especially those along east facing reefs as rip currents will be life threatening.

Inexperienced mariners, especially those operating smaller vessels, should avoid boating in these conditions. (PR)

Do you have questions about U.S. Immigration or Deportation



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Thursday, Feb. 21

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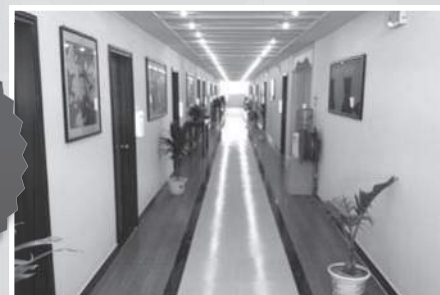
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NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT of Public Auction under Power of Sale in Deed of Trust

In accordance with the provisions of 2 CMC §4626 of the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands Deed of Trust Act, 2 CMC §4611, et seq., Trustee Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, acting on behalf of the Department of Veterans Affairs, hereby gives Notice that the Public Sale of the real property described as **Lot No. 128 D 51**, and more particularly described below, has been postponed until **Tuesday, April 2, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.**

As required by 2 CMC §4626, at the public sale on Friday, December 10, 2012 and again at the initial postponement on February 8, 2013, the Trustee made a public declaration of this postponement, and continued the public sale to a new date of **Tuesday, April 2, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.**

Accordingly, pursuant to 2 CMC §4622(b)(2) and 2 CMC §4626, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee Northern Marianas Housing Corporation will be **Tuesday, April 2, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.** at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation's office in Garapan, Saipan, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust received from Francisco L. Kaipat, sell the following described real property:

Lot No. 128 D 51, (formerly known as part of Lot 018 D 57), containing an area of 620 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 128 D 00, the original of which was recorded 07 Dec 1999 as Document No. 99-2896 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan

at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust.

A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance shall be due within seventy-two (72) hours of the auction sale. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within seventy-two (72) hours will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned real property will automatically revert to NMHC, as Trustee. The real property shall be sold **"AS IS"** without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed, or as to the property of the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash or cashier's check.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and to cancel or postpone the date, time, and place of sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands.

Dated this 8th day of February, 2013.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director

Lot No.: 128 D 51
Area: 620 m²
Gross Living Area: 1,201 Ft²
Location: Adilanto Loop, Sugar King Estates, Saipan

3 BR, 2 Bath
Minimum Bid: \$69,000.00
Bid Date: December 10, 2012
Bid Time: 10:00 a.m.
Bid Place: NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan



Business

Boehner: Up to Democrats to prevent budget cuts

WASHINGTON (AP)—House Speaker John Boehner said Wednesday it's unlikely the Republican-controlled House and Democratic-led Senate will prevent a wave of automatic spending cuts from beginning to strike the economy in two weeks. Yet he sounded hopeful about avoiding a partial shutdown of the government when a temporary spending bill expires next month.

Cloistered in his Capitol office overlooking the National Mall, Boehner said in an interview with The Associated Press that he was skeptical of many of President Barack Obama's plans, laid out the

night before in the annual State of the Union address.

Boehner voiced doubts about Obama's proposal for taxpayer-funded help for pre-school education for all 4-year-olds, and would not commit to passing a pathway to citizenship for the nation's 11 million illegal immigrants, though doing so would be "somewhat helpful" to members of his

party as they seek to regain support among Hispanics. "There's no magic potion that's going to solve our party's woes with Hispanics," he said.

Boehner also refused to swing behind any of Obama's gun-control proposals and said he opposed the president's plan to raise the minimum wage to \$9 an hour.

The Ohio Republican said he gets along well with Obama but admits their relationship hasn't generated much in the way of results, pointing to two failed rounds of budget talks in 2011

and at the end of last year. Boehner is frustrated that spending cuts Obama signaled he would agree to in 2011 have been taken off the table since the election.



Boehner

Sources: American Airlines, US Airways to merge

DALLAS (AP)—American Airlines and US Airways will merge and create the world's biggest airline. The boards of both companies approved the merger late Wednesday, according to four people close to the situation.

The carrier keeps the American Airlines name but will be run by US Airways CEO Doug Parker. American's CEO, Tom Horton, will become chairman of the new company, these people said. They requested

anonymity because the merger negotiations were private.

A formal announcement is expected Thursday morning.

The deal has been in the works since August, when creditors forced American to consider a merger rather than remain independent. American has been restructuring under bankruptcy protection since late 2011.

Together, American and US Airways will be slightly bigger than United Airlines. Travelers won't notice immediate changes. It will likely be months before the frequent-flyer programs are merged, and possibly years before the two airlines are fully combined.

If the deal is approved by American's bankruptcy judge and antitrust regulators, the new American will have more than 900 planes, 3,200 daily

flights and about 95,000 employees, not counting regional affiliates. It will expand American's current reach on the East Coast and overseas.

The merger is a stunning achievement for Parker, who will run the new company. Parker's airline is only half the size of American and is less familiar around the world, but he prevailed by driving a wedge between American's management and its union workers and by convincing American's creditors that a merger made business sense.

Just five years ago, American was the world's biggest airline. It boasted a history reaching back 80 years to the beginning of air travel. It had popularized the frequent-flyer program and developed the modern system of pricing airline tickets to match demand.

Horsemeat scandal exposes complex food chain

LONDON (AP)—First, there was "pink slime." Then horsemeat. Most recently? "Desinewed meat."

Recent revelations that such products have reached dinner tables, including horsemeat falsely labeled as beef in Europe, have cast an unappetizing light on the global food industry.

Critics say the widening horsemeat scandal in particular is a result of a food supply chain that has become too complex to be safe. Others say we are stuck with the system: In today's world, foodstuffs are highly mobile commodities, while consumers have come to expect—and increasingly need—plentiful, cheap meat.

Genevieve Cazes-Valette, a French anthropologist who studies food, said that throughout history, people around the world have had a special and intense relationship with meat.

"When we fast, we don't give up bread. We give up meat," she said.

A century ago, meat was a dish primarily for special oc-

casions or the rich. That's still the case in much of the world, but today consumers in wealthy countries expect meat to be their primary source of protein, and they want it inexpensive and convenient. They'd also prefer not to think too hard about where it came from.

"They want cheap and they want good," Cazes-Valette said.

Europe's horsemeat scandal has exposed a food supply chain set up to fulfill that demand—one in which meat from a Romanian abattoir can end up in British lasagna by way of companies in Luxembourg and France.

Since horse DNA was found in burgers from an Irish plant last month, the scandal has snaked its way across the continent, exposing a haphazard system with seemingly little rhyme or reason. Horsemeat is not generally considered unsafe to eat, but the scandal has triggered disgust in places such as Britain where it traditionally is not eaten and anger over the mislabeling of food products.



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Wednesday February 13 4:30 – 6:30pm FIESTA RESORT & SPA SAIPAN (beach side)	Thursday February 14 4:00 – 6:00pm MHS Gym at MISO Games	Friday February 15 4:00 – 7:00pm	Saturday February 16 8:30a – 5:00p	Sunday February 17 8:30a – 5:00p	Sunday March 3 8:30a – 5:00p
All events are open to the Public ∞ No membership required					
GUAM					
FREE Kids Clinic w/the Pro Players (Ages 8-25) REGISTRATION for Pro Am Cup	REGISTRATION for Pro Am Cup	6:00p Pro Player Exhibition Matches Pro Raffle Draw (during exhibition) REGISTRATION for Pro Am Cup (reg closes 5:30pm)	ProAm Cup Pool Play No late entries accepted	ProAm Cup Double Elimination based on Saturday pool play No new entries	Kids Cup
Wednesday February 20 4:00 – 6:00pm Gun Beach, Tumon	Thursday February 21 ALL DAY ST JOHN'S GYM	Friday February 22 3:00 – 9:00pm	Saturday February 23 8:30a – 6:00p	Sunday February 24 8:30a – 6:00p	Sunday March 3 8:30a – 5:00p
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KIDS CUP

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- Registration closes 3/1

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Nation

Sheriff: Cabin not purposely burned in firefight

LOS ANGELES (AP)—There was no question. The man standing before Rick Heltebrake on a rural mountain road was Christopher Dorner.

Clad in camouflage from head to toe and wearing a bulletproof vest packed with ammunition, the most wanted man in America was just a few feet away, having emerged from a grove of trees holding a large, assault-style rifle.

As teams of officers who had sought the fugitive ex-Los Angeles police officer for a week were closing in, Dorner pointed the gun at Heltebrake and ordered him to get out of his truck.

"I don't want to hurt you. Start walking and take your dog," Heltebrake recalled Dorner saying during the carjacking Tuesday.

The man, who wasn't lugging any gear, got into the truck and drove away. Heltebrake, with his 3-year-old Dalmatian Suni in tow, called police when he heard a volley of gunfire erupt soon after, and then hid behind a tree.

A short time later, police caught up with the man they believe was Dorner, surrounding a cabin where he'd taken refuge after crashing Heltebrake's truck in the San Bernardino Mountains 80 miles east of Los Angeles.

A gunfight ensued in which one sheriff's deputy was killed and another wounded. After the firefight ended, a SWAT team using an armored vehicle broke out the cabin's windows and began knocking down walls. A fire broke out and later charred remains believed to be Dorner's were found.

San Bernardino County Sheriff John McMahon said Wednesday the fire was not set on purpose.

"We did not intentionally burn down that cabin to get Mr. Dorner out," he said.

His deputies lobbed pyrotechnic tear gas into the cabin, and it erupted in flames, he said. McMahon did not say directly that the tear gas started the blaze, and the cause of the fire was under investigation.

The sheriff said authorities have not positively identified the remains. However, all evidence points to it being Dorner, he said, and the manhunt is considered over.

A wallet and personal items, including a California driver's license with the name Christopher Dorner were found in the cabin debris, an official briefed on the investigation told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because of the ongoing probe.

Calls for action at Senate immigration hearing

WASHINGTON (AP)—Lawmakers who are shaping the fate of the millions of people in the U.S. illegally were told by one Wednesday that it's time to rewrite immigration laws so that they, too, can live the American dream.

"What do you want to do with me?" an emotional Jose Antonio Vargas demanded of senators. "How do you define American."

The first Senate hearing on immigration policy this year pointed toward an emerging bipartisan consensus that the nation's 11 million illegal immigrants should be offered a path to citizenship. But passionate divisions over the issue also sur-

faced as one Republican decried amnesty and shouting protesters interrupted the proceedings. "You really mean that we're

not going to have enforcement, but we've got to have amnesty first," Sen. Jeff Sessions, a top Republican on the Senate Judiciary Committee, confronted the panel's chairman, Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt.

Leahy and Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano rejected the argument that border security must be the focus before a comprehensive immigration package or any pathway to legalization can be done.

"Too often the border security refrain simply serves as an excuse," Napolitano said. "Our borders have in fact never been stronger."



Vargas

An immigration overhaul is a priority for President Barack Obama and lawmakers after a brutal election in which voters again elected a divided government. Democrats control

the White House and the Senate, while Republicans hold the House majority.

But for all of the division and polarization in Washington, the hearing produced evidence of bipartisan agreement

to fix what all agree is a broken system—and finally dispense with a wrenching issue that has bedeviled lawmakers for years.

Vargas' testimony produced a striking moment in which one of the 11 million illegal immigrants at the center of the debate confronted the elected officials reconsidering the law.

A former journalist who acknowledged his illegal status in a high-profile piece in The New York Times Magazine in June 2011, Vargas recalled his journey to the U.S. from the Philippines in 1993. He told lawmakers that he never knew he was

here illegally until he applied for a drivers' permit, and that he lived for years in fear until he decided to go public and start an advocacy group. He has so far avoided deportation.

"Too often, we're treated as abstractions, faceless and nameless, mere subjects of debate rather than individuals with families, hopes, fears, and dreams," Vargas told committee members. "We dream of a path to citizenship so we can actively participate in our American democracy." Democrats on the panel offered praise and encouragement. Republicans had little response.

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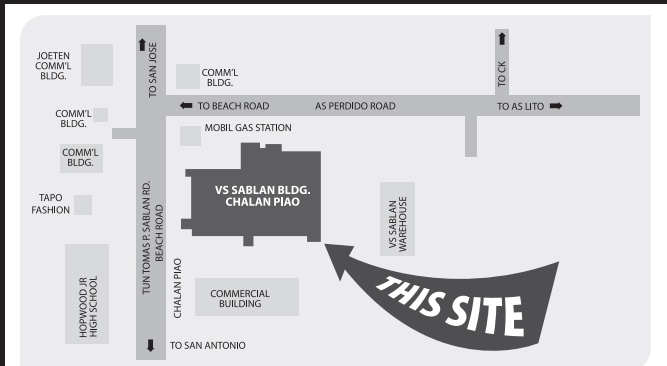
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Asia

Filipinos abroad hire Cupids to serenade lovers

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Angelica Nino, a 22-year-old manager of a Manila restaurant, was preparing to assign shifts to her crew last week when she got a big surprise from her Filipino boyfriend who has been in Italy for a year on business.

To mark their first anniversary as a couple and as an early Valentine’s Day gift, he sent over a singer and a guitar player to serenade her and read out his love letter.

This scene will be played out Thursday in restaurants, offices and homes across the Philippines on Valentine’s Day.

With nearly 10 percent of the country’s 94 million people working abroad, clearly there was room for someone to play Cupid between long-distance lovers. And then was born a unique surprise serenade service, which includes love songs, a cuddly teddy and a video recording of the romance-by-proxy event that is shipped to the client abroad. To immortalize their love, the video is also posted on YouTube.

At the Yoshinoya restaurant, a video camera recorded the teary-eyed Nino listening to the love songs by the rental Cupids while hugging the teddy bear gift. Smiling co-workers—who were in on the surprise—and guests watched as Thor, a professional singer, performed.

The unique service was started by in 2010 by Jason dela Rosa, a former recording studio producer who said it is the first and only professional surprise serenade service in the country. The bulk of his clients are homesick and love struck Filipinos overseas who want to send their love to spouses, girlfriends and boyfriends from thousands of miles away.

“So even if you are overseas, and you send a serenade to your loved ones in the Philippines, you will get to experience what they experienced via the video,” said Jason dela Rosa, a former recording studio producer who started the serenade service in 2010.

It is not unlike having flowers delivered to your loved one, but with the added zing of a song.

He said he and his business partner wanted to give the “singing telegram” that was popular in the U.S. a more Filipino character, so they called their company Harana, or serenade in the local Tagalog language.

Harana is a dying Philippine courtship tradition in which a boy courting a girl goes to her

house in the evening with a guitar player and singer in tow. They would sing love songs until the girl being wooed looks out the window or invites them in to meet her parents.

“Harana’s effect is different because harana is such a cultural thing for us, but we try to make it modern, with modern songs,” dela Rosa said.

Instead of just sending a plain message, “there is romance, there is a lot effort put into the event organizing, and the most we wanted to do is to record everything on video,” he added.

When the company was started, dela Rosa said, no one else in the world offered such a service, though similar services are available today in the U.S., Bolivia and Australia. But its popularity in the Philippines is more telling because no other countries have such a high percentage of people who work abroad, mostly in service, medical and shipping industries.

Gloria Guevara, a 57-year-old accountant whose seafarer husband Eduardo is sailing in South America, said she was touched when she was serenaded on their wedding anniversary in her office in December. Her officemates were cheering, and some, like her, became misty-eyed.

“It really came as a surprise,” Guevara said. “Often he would send flowers or send money to my daughter for our lunch out, but for this anniversary it was a little different.”

She said Filipino families with members abroad have “so many things we miss out on, but you can try to make up for it by such gestures.”

ASIAN BRIEFS

Afghan officials welcome drawdown, others dismayed

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—President Barack Obama’s decision to bring half of America’s 66,000 troops home within a year was welcomed Wednesday by Afghan officials who have long agitated to control their country, but was greeted with dismay by Afghans who think America failed to keep its promise of a better and safer life. A troop drawdown was widely expected, but for the first time, Obama said how many. For some Afghans, Obama’s State of the Union address on Tuesday underscored the reality that foreign troops were indeed leaving—and sooner than expected. Afghan President Hamid Karzai viewed the announcement as good news. He has pushed for a faster withdrawal of international troops, arguing that his country is sovereign and should control its own fate.

Thai marines kill 16 militants who attacked base

NARATHIWAT, Thailand (AP)—Marines fending off a militant assault on their base in Thailand’s violent south killed 16 insurgents in an overnight shootout, authorities said Wednesday. It was the deadliest toll the Muslim guerrillas suffered since more than 100 died in a single day nearly a decade ago. Thailand’s military has struggled to control the insurgency since it flared in the country’s Muslim-majority southernmost provinces in 2004. About 30 militants attacked the marine base in Bacho district in Narathiwat province just after midnight, said Capt. Somkiat Ponprayun, the provincial marine corps special task force chief.

India official takes blame in deadly poll violence

GAUHATI, India (AP)—The chief minister of India’s northeastern Assam state said Wednesday that he was taking responsibility for violence that killed 19 people during local elections. The violence erupted Tuesday when a local tribe protested against village council elections, fearing they were part of a government plan to infringe on the tribe’s autonomy. Thirteen of the victims were killed by police firing at violent protesters and another six were killed in clashes between protesters and counter-protesters, said Assam’s chief minister, Tarun Gogoi. In addition, 300 houses were burned down.

NKorea nuke test may offer intelligence windfall

TOKYO (AP)—North Korea’s underground nuclear test shows it is making big strides toward becoming a true nuclear power. But the test may also reveal key clues the secretive nation might have hoped to hide about how close, or how far away, it is from fielding a nuclear weapon capable of striking the United States or its allies.

Hoping to capitalize on a rare opportunity to gauge North Korea’s nuclear capabilities, intelligence and military officials around the region are scrambling to glean data to answer three big questions: how powerful was the device Pyongyang tested, what sort of device was it, and what progress does the test indicate the nation has made.

North Korea hailed Tuesday’s test as a “perfect” success, saying it used a device that was stronger and more advanced than those in its past two at-

tempts. Add that to its successful rocket launch in December and the threat of a North Korea ready to strike at the United States, which it sees as its arch-enemy, would appear to be more real than ever.

But just how close is it?

The main thing intelligence officials want to figure out is what kind of device was used. Was it a plutonium bomb, like the ones it tested in 2006 and 2009, or one that used highly enriched uranium?

James Acton, an analyst with the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, said North Korea’s plutonium stockpile is small and it would be difficult and expensive for the North to produce more. But a test using highly enriched uranium, which is cheaper and easier to produce, would raise the threat that North Korea can expand its nuclear arsenal quickly.

“A highly enriched uranium test would be a significant development,” he said. “Unfortunately, we don’t yet have any evidence as to the device’s design yield or whether it was made from plutonium or highly enriched uranium.”

Finding that out is a race against time.

Joseph De Trani, former head of the National Counterproliferation Center, predicted U.S. intelligence would determine the size and composition of the nuclear device in one to three days based partly on radioactive elements released into the environment.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CUC-RFP-13-015

SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF FUEL FOR POWER GENERATION

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms for the supply and delivery of fuel for CUC Power Generation facilities on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. The purchase of approximately 18,000,000 – 20,000,000 US gallons annually of No. 2 Diesel Fuel Oil (also known as gasoil or Low Sulfur ADO for , American Samoa and CNMI, as defined by US EPA) will be for the period starting May 1, 2013 through April 30, 2017.

The RFP package may be obtained upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$200.00 for one set from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on **February 19, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “*CUC-RFP-13-015, Supply & Delivery of Fuel for Power Generation*”, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **March 08, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All Offerors are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor’s preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The Proposal Price shall remain the same throughout the term of the contract except for the variation in the MOPS and government taxes, duties and fees. Note that the CNMI Government at present, exempts the fuel supplier from paying liquid fuel tax (currently, \$0.15/gallon).

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

All questions or request for clarification must be submitted in writing no later than **February 22, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Wallon Young, CUC Deputy Director for Power via email wallon59@yahoo.com and Charles Warren, CUC Chief Financial Officer via email charles_warren@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ ALAN W. FLETCHER

Acting Executive Director



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Procurement and Delivery of Thirty (30) Proximity Fire Coats and Proximity Fire Pants for the Saipan International Airport Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting (ARFF) Department

RFP No. CPA-RFP-001-13

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is requesting for sealed proposals for procurement and delivery of thirty (30) brand new Globe B7U Proximity Fire Coat and thirty (30) Globe Proximity Fire Pants to the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Department at the Saipan International Airport.

All responses to this RFP shall also take into account any and all shipping and handling charges and taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract, including excise tax. Size information can be picked up at the CPA Administration Office, 2nd floor of the Saipan International Airport's Arrival Terminal. Additional details are as follows:

Globe B7U Proximity Fire Coat

1. NFPA Compliant
2. 32" Length
3. Seven (7) ounce PBI/Kevlar Aluminized Outer Shell
4. 82 Aralite Quilt Thermal Liner
5. Stedair Moisture Barrier
6. Zipper Inner Closure/Velcro Outer Closure
7. Dual Action Cargo Pockets, 9" x 9" with Hand Warmers
8. Self-Material Reinforced Elbows
9. PBI Hand and Wrist Guards
10. 13P Radio Pocket on Left Chest, 3" x 3.5" x 9" with Antenna Notch on Left Side
11. DRD Drag Rescue Device
12. Arashield Cuffs
13. Action Back
14. Thermally Enhanced Upper Body and Elbows
15. 12" Throat Tab
16. All other standard features of the GX-7
17. Up to Size 58

Globe Proximity Fire Pant

1. NFPA Compliant
2. Seven (7) Ounce PBI/Kevlar Aluminized Outer Shell
3. 82 Aralite Thermal Liner
4. Stedair Moisture Barrier
5. 6" Back Bib
6. 2" x 10" x 10" Cargo Pockets
7. Expansion Knees
8. Flared Leg Design
9. Arashield Cuffs
10. Reverse Boot Cut
11. Replaceable Self Material Knees with Sewn on Frame
12. 1" Back Suspenders
13. Up to Size 58

All proposals are to be submitted in a sealed envelope marked with the respective RFP description to the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd floor of the Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, no later than **4:30 p.m., Monday, February 25, 2013**.

The proposals shall include the following:

- Letter of Interest;
- Delivery timeframe;
- Cost Proposal (in itemized scope of work format);
- Valid CNMI Business License.

Inquiries regarding this Request for Proposals shall be delivered to the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority at the Saipan International Airport, faxed to (670) 234-5962 or emailed to cpa.admin@pticom.com no later than February 8, 2013.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations Section 3.6. CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO

Executive Director

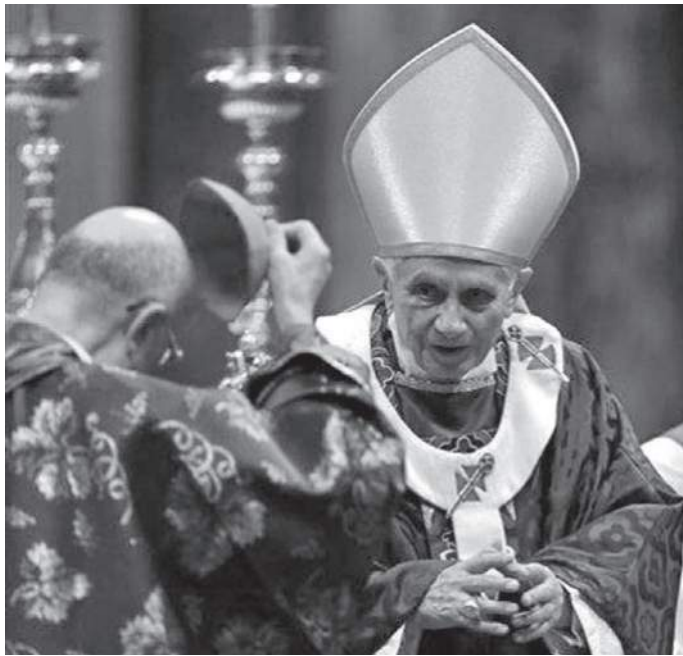
Date: January 25, 2013

World

Tears, applause for pope at last public Mass

VATICAN CITY (AP)—With a humble “Grazie” as bishops doffed their mitres and applause echoed through St. Peter’s Basilica, a frail Pope Benedict XVI began his long farewell by presiding over Ash Wednesday services in a tearful, final public Mass. “We wouldn’t be sincere, Your Holiness, if we didn’t tell you that there’s a veil of sadness on our hearts this evening,” said Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, Benedict’s long-time deputy, his voice breaking.

“Thank you for having given us the luminous example of the simple and humble worker in



Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone takes off his skull cap after he delivered a speech to Pope Benedict XVI at the end of the Ash Wednesday mass in St. Peter’s Basilica at the Vatican, Wednesday, Feb. 13, 2013.

the vineyard of the Lord,” Bertone said, quoting Benedict’s own words when he first appeared before the faithful above St. Peter’s Square after he was elected pope.

Smiling and clearly moved, Benedict responded, “Grazie. Now let us return to prayer”—his words bringing to an end the resounding applause that had grown in intensity over several minutes.

Then, in a rare gesture and sign of respect, the rows of bishops, some with tears in their eyes, removed their mitres. One prelate dabbed at his eyes with a handkerchief.

“Viva il papa!” someone in the crowd shouted as the pope slowly made his way down the steps of the altar, assisted by two clergymen. He then departed St. Peter’s for the last time aboard a wheeled platform, sparing him the long walk down the aisle.

Ash Wednesday marks the start of Lent, the most solemn season on the church’s liturgical calendar that ends with Holy

2-BR APARTMENT FOR RENT

Walking distance to MHS. Behind Calvo’s Nursery, off Texas Rd. Furnished w/ AC & ceiling fans. 24hr CUC & rain water, private washer/dryer. \$450 per month, water included.

Please call Ed at 788-6268 / 323-0409

WORLD BRIEFS

VP: Chavez undergoing ‘tough and complex’ post-op

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez is undergoing “tough and complex treatments” following cancer-related surgery, his vice president said on Wednesday. Vice President Nicolas Maduro said that Chavez “will finish his cycle of treatment for his illness at some point,” but he did not provide details. Maduro recently returned from a trip to Cuba, where Chavez continues to receive medical care.

Ukraine: 5 dead in crash-landing

KIEV, Ukraine (AP)—A passenger plane carrying soccer fans headed for a match skidded past the landing strip and overturned in the eastern Ukrainian city of Donetsk on Wednesday, killing five people, officials said. The small, Soviet-designed AN-24 plane was carrying 44 passengers and crew from the Black Sea port of Odessa when it crash-landed shortly after 6 p.m. local time, the Emergency Situations Ministry said on its website. The plane was operated by the small Southern Airlines company, which mostly runs domestic flights out of Odessa.

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID
ITB13-DLNR/DFW-075 (ROTA)**

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: MARCH 05, 2013 • TIME: 11:00 A.M.

**“OFFICE SPACE LEASE FOR THE DEPT. OF LANDS
AND NATURAL RESOURCES, DIVISION OF FISH &
WILDLIFE - ROTA BRANCH”**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE LESSOR MUST COMPLY WITH CNMI PUBLIC LAW 15-23, ARTICLE 5, SECTION 8652 (A) – (D)

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ARNOLD I. PALACIOS
SECRETARY OF DLNR

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

RETIREMENT FUND
“Investing For The Future Financial Security Of Our Members”

**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
JVA 13-004**

OPENING DATE: **Immediately** CLOSING DATE: **Until Filled**

The NMI Retirement Fund is seeking a professional and motivated individual to work in a challenging environment as Legal Counsel for the Fund. Salaries will be based on qualification and experience. Benefits are commensurate with the responsibilities assigned to the successful candidate and in compliance with CNMI laws.

Interested applicants must submit their **application, resume, educational credentials, police clearance and others** as outlined in the JVA package. The complete package is available from the Fund, located on Capitol Hill, Saipan, by e-mail through the Fund Administrator; or the Fund’s website at www.nmiretirement.com. **Mailed and hand delivered packages must be marked “JVA 13-004 Confidential,” and must have the applicant’s name and return address on the outside of the envelope. Please address your application submission to:**

Lillian M. Pangelinan, Acting Administrator
NMI Retirement Fund
P.O. Box 501247
Saipan, MP 96950-1247
E-mail: administrator01@nmiretirement.com

Syrian rebels close in on Aleppo international airport

BEIRUT (AP)—Syrian rebels knocked down army defenses and moved in on the country’s second largest airport Wednesday, reportedly killing more than 40 soldiers and bringing them closer to what could be their biggest conquest since the beginning of the civil war.

Control of Aleppo international airport and a military air base next to it would be a huge strategic shift for Syria’s north-eastern region, giving the opposition a potential air hub enabling aid and other flights.

Still, activists said it could be days before the rebels would be

able to push their way into the airport, 7 kilometers (4 miles) from the contested city center, and even then, it was unclear whether they would be able to retain control of the sprawling facility for long.

The country’s air space is firmly controlled by the government, which uses its warplanes indiscriminately to bomb rebel strongholds.

The advance on the airport, which stopped handling any flights weeks ago because of the fighting, comes on the heels of other strategic gains.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

4 – HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

High school diploma with (5) years minimum work related experience. Able to operate several types of heavy equipment including but not limited to Backhoe/Loader, Road Grader, Tractor/Trailer Combo, Bulldozer, Hydraulic Crane. Load weights and check them against lifting capacities to prevent overload. Move levers, depress foot pedals, or turn dials to operate cranes, or other moving equipment for lifting, moving, or placing loads. Learn and follow safety regulations. Take actions to avoid potential hazards or obstructions, such as utility lines, other equipment, other workers, or falling objects. Clean, lubricate and inspect mechanisms or accessories such as cables, pulleys, or grapple devices to prevent malfunctions or damage. Perform routine maintenance of equipment. Must have knowledge in troubleshooting and able to diagnose problem or malfunction and make repairs as necessary.

Interested qualified applicants can submit their resume and latest police clearance via e-mail to saipan@aicconstruction.com or mail to AIC Marianas, Inc., PMB 564 PPP Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950. Closing Date: February 21, 2013

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

JVA No. 13-008 Opening Date: **Monday, February 4, 2013**
Closing Date: **Friday, February 15, 2013**

**ASSISTANT ENGINEER
(Electrical)**

DUTIES: Under the general supervision of the Deputy Director for Rota or his/her designee. Please contact the CUC HR Office for more details.

LOCATION: Primarily at the Power Plant on Rota, Northern Mariana Islands, USA. However, periodic meetings may occur at the Rota Administration Office.

SALARY: \$23,200.00 to \$33,640.00 per annum; Un-classified.

POSITIONS: One (1).

CONTRACT: Not Contracted; may be subject to work authorization requirements.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: Bachelor’s Degree in Electrical Engineering. Please contact the CUC HR Office for more details.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

CUC is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID
ITB13-DEQ-072 (ROTA)**

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: MARCH 05, 2013 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

**“OFFICE SPACE LEASE FOR THE DIVISION OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY – ROTA BRANCH”**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE LESSOR MUST COMPLY WITH CNMI PUBLIC LAW 15-23, ARTICLE 5, SECTION 8652 (A) – (D)

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ FRANK M. RABAUIMAN
DIRECTOR OF DEQ

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID
ITB13-DEQ-073 (TINIAN)**

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: MARCH 05, 2013 • TIME: 10:30 A.M.

**“OFFICE SPACE LEASE FOR THE DIVISION OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY – TINIAN BRANCH”**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE LESSOR MUST COMPLY WITH CNMI PUBLIC LAW 15-23, ARTICLE 5, SECTION 8652 (A) – (D)

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ FRANK M. RABAUIMAN
DIRECTOR OF DEQ

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS**

HAIQIN DAI Petitioner,	FCD-DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 12-0554
vs.	SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION
GAO DONG JIE Respondent,	

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is HAIQIN DAI, C/O PMB 2621, P.O. BOX 10002 GARAPAN, SAIPAN as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 7th day of January, 2013.

/s/ Clerk of Court

Terry Taimanao Ayuyu
P.O. Box 892
Rota, MP 96951
Telephone No. (670) 532-3578

PRO SE

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

IN RE THE MATTER OF THE APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN OF THE ESTATES OF: A. A. S. (D.O.B. 7/21/2002) and L. A. S. (D.O.B. 7/29/2003) Minor Children by Terry Taimanao Ayuyu Petitioner	FCD-GU-CIVIL ACTION NO. 13-0032R NOTICE OF HEARING
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PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition for Appointment of Guardian for the estate of the above-named minor children by Terry Taimanao Ayuyu, Petitioner, was filed with the above-entitled Honorable Court.

A HEARING of said petition for Guardianship will be held at the above-entitled Honorable Court at Rota Superior Court before Associate Judge Joseph Camacho on the 15th day of March, 2013 at 10:30 a.m. or as soon as thereafter.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

Dallas chocolatier pumps out chocolate high heels

DALLAS (AP)—Florists and chocolate-makers are working around the clock in the run-up to Valentine’s Day.

In Dallas, chocolatier Andrea Pedraza, who loves designer high heels, molded her pedestrian passion into chocolate form. Her most well-known creations are chocolate pumps done in the style of Christian Louboutin shoes.

Pedraza says men buy the chocolate pumps the most, so she keeps extras on hand for last-minute shoppers.



In this Feb. 7, 2013 photo, chocolate high heels made by master chocolatier Andrea Pedraza are lined up at her shop in the Oak Cliff section of Dallas.

F. MATTHEW SMITH
Law Office of F. Matthew Smith, LLC
2nd Floor, MIC Building, Chalan Monsignor Guerrero
San Jose Village
P.O. Box 501127
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: (670) 234-7455/234-7427
Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

Attorneys for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff,	CIVIL ACTION NO. 03-0142B
vs.	AMENDED NOTICE OF AUCTION
EUGENE R. CLOTHIER and MONA M.T. CLOTHIER	Defendants. 22089-2

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants Eugene R. and Mona M.T. Clothier in the following described, real property situated in Rota, CNMI will be sold at an auction.

Tract 22089-2 (Part of Tract 22089, AH 238-77), containing an area of 29,092 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 3005/89, the original of which was recorded 17 Jan 89 as Document No. 89-0164 at Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan, including all improvements, appurtenances and easements therewith.

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at CDA's Conference Room, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m., on Friday, February 22, 2013**, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

- Minimum Bid, No minimum opening bid.**
- Reserve.** The auction shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
 - To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
- Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Manuel A. Sablan, Executive Director, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235-7147; or F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
- Deposit: Payment.** A deposit of ten (10%) percent of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.
- Change of Terms.** Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Eugene R. and Mona M.T. Clothier in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real property or its title will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 17th day of January 2013.

/s/ AMBROSIO T. OGUMORO,
Commissioner Department of Public Safety

JENNIFER DOCKTER
Law Office of F. Matthew Smith, LLC
2nd Floor, MIC Building,
Chalan Monsignor Guerrero
San Jose Village
P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: (670) 234-7455/234-7427
Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

Attorneys for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff,	CIVIL ACTION NO. 03-0609A
vs.	NOTICE OF AUCTION
ESTATE OF PONCIANO CRUZ RASA, VIVIAN P. RASA, and CNMI DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE,	Defendants.

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants the Estate of Ponciano Cruz Rasa and Vivian P. Rasa in the following described, real property situated in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan, CNMI will be sold at an auction.

Fee Simple in land situated in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan Municipality, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, known as **Lot No. 014 H 58**, and containing an amount of 299 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat Number 014H 01, the original of which was registered with the Land Registry as Document Number 8244, on the 16th of May 1979, and including all existing and permanent improvements on the real property, including all improvements, appurtenances and easements therewith.

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at CDA's Conference Room, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m., on Friday, February 22, 2013**, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

- Minimum Bid, No minimum opening bid.**
- Reserve.** The auction shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
 - To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
- Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Manuel A. Sablan, Executive Director, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235-7147; or F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
- Deposit: Payment.** A deposit of ten (10%) percent of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.
- Change of Terms.** Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the Estate of Ponciano Cruz Rasa and Vivian P. Rasa in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real property or its title will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 25th day of January 2013.

/s/ JAMES C. DELEON GUERRERO,
ACTING COMMISSIONER
Department of Public Safety

F. MATTHEW SMITH
Law Office of F. Matthew Smith, LLC
2nd Floor, MIC Building, Chalan Monsignor Guerrero
San Jose Village
P.O. Box 501127
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: (670) 234-7455/234-7427
Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

Attorneys for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff,	CIVIL ACTION NO. 04-0480
vs.	NOTICE OF AUCTION
LIANA S. HOFSCHEIDER, individually, and dba ISA SERVICE STATION, and RICHARD U. HOFSCHEIDER,	Defendants.

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants Liana S. Hofschneider, individually, and dba ISA Service Station, and Richard U. Hofschneider in the following described, real property situated in the CNMI will be sold at an auction.

Lot No. 057 T 99, Tinian, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 057 T 02, the original of which was recorded 05 February 1991 as Document No. 91-820 at Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan, including all improvements, appurtenances and easements therewith.

Real property located in As Lito, Saipan, legally identified as **Tract No. 22507-5**, containing an area of 1,100 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on DLS Check No. 2148/88, approved by the Chief, Lands and Survey's Divisions, dated July 15, 1988, including all improvements, appurtenances and easements therewith;

Lot No. 003 T 55 (part of Lot 033 T 39), formerly known as Block 14, Lot 2), situated in the island of Tinian, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 003 T 01, the original of which was recorded December 13, 1976 as Document No. 5727 at Land Registry, Saipan, including all improvements, appurtenances and easements therewith;

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at CDA's Conference Room, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m., on Friday, February 22, 2013**, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

- Minimum Bid, No minimum opening bid.**
- Reserve.** The auction shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
 - To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
- Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Manuel A. Sablan, Executive Director, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235-7147; or F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
- Deposit: Payment.** A deposit of ten (10%) percent of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.
- Change of Terms.** Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Liana S. Hofschneider, individually, and dba ISA Service Station and Richard U. Hofschneider in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real property or its title will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 17th day of January 2013.

/s/ AMBROSIO T. OGUMORO,
Commissioner Department of Public Safety

F. MATTHEW SMITH
Law Office of F. Matthew Smith, LLC
2nd Floor, MIC Building, Chalan Monsignor Guerrero
San Jose Village
P.O. Box 501127
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: (670) 234-7455/234-7427
Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

Attorneys for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff,	CIVIL ACTION NO. 08-0022
vs.	NOTICE OF AUCTION
JOSEPH M. MENDIOLA, JUANITA M. MENDIOLA, and CARLEEN H. PALACIOS,	Defendants.

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants Joseph M. Mendiola, Juanita M. Mendiola, and Carleen H. Palacios in the following described real property situated in the island of Tinian, CNMI will be sold at an auction.

Lot No. 006 T 172 as shown in the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 006 T 06 dated September 28, 1983, on file in said Office, said land containing an area of 1,048 square meters, more or less, and is situated in San Jose Village, Tinian, Mariana Islands, including all improvements, appurtenances and easements therewith;

and

500 Square Meters out of Lot No. 022 T 04 as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 002 T 01 dated May 13, 1982, on file in said office. Most specifically where the Lito Print Shop is currently located. Further described as follows: 22,361 meters 1 A of boundary line S 85 degrees 10 minutes 40 seconds E to point B; 22,361 meters from point B to point C at S 5 degrees 6 minutes 00 seconds W; 22,361 meters from point C to point D at N 85 degrees 10 minutes 40 seconds W; 22,361 meters from Point D to Point 1 A at N 5 degrees 6 minutes and 00 seconds E, including all improvements, appurtenances and easements therewith;

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at CDA's Conference Room, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m., on Friday, February 22, 2013**, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

- Minimum Bid, No minimum opening bid.**
- Reserve.** The auction shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
 - To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
- Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Manuel A. Sablan, Executive Director, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235-7147; or F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
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- Change of Terms.** Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Joseph M. Mendiola, Juanita M. Mendiola, and Carleen H. Palacios in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real property or its title will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 17th day of January 2013.

/s/ AMBROSIO T. OGUMORO
Commissioner Department of Public Safety

F. MATTHEW SMITH
Law Office of F. Matthew Smith, LLC
2nd Floor, MIC Building, Chalan Monsignor Guerrero
San Jose Village
P.O. Box 501127
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: (670) 234-7455/234-7427
Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

Attorneys for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff,	CIVIL ACTION NO. 97-0677
vs.	NOTICE OF AUCTION
GUERRERO BROTHERS, INC., PEDRO R. GUERRERO, HERMAN R. GUERRERO, PILAR M. GUERRERO, and LUCY P. GUERRERO,	Defendants.

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants Guerrero Brothers, Inc., Pedro R. Guerrero, Herman R. Guerrero, Pilar M. Guerrero, and Lucy P. Guerrero in the following described real property situated in the Garapan, Saipan, CNMI will be sold at an auction.

All of that tract or parcel of land in the Garapan District of Saipan, MP, known as the **Northern Portion of Lot No. 1811** as shown on Lands and Claims Map No. 5 on file with the Clerk of Court, Saipan, MP, including all improvements, appurtenances and easements therewith.

The above tract of land is bounded on the North by a portion of Lot No. 1813, and a portion of Lot No. 1815, on the East by a portion of Lot No. 1812, on the South by the remainder of Lot No. 1811 and on the West by a portion of Lot No. 1815. Said parcel of land contains 2.0 hectares, more or less, subject to survey.

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at CDA's Conference Room, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m., on Friday, February 22, 2013**, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

- Minimum Bid, No minimum opening bid.**
- Reserve.** The auction shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
 - To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
- Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Manuel A. Sablan, Executive Director, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235-7147; or F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
- Deposit: Payment.** A deposit of ten (10%) percent of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.
- Change of Terms.** Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Defendants Guerrero Brothers, Inc., Pedro R. Guerrero, Herman R. Guerrero, Pilar M. Guerrero, and Lucy P. Guerrero in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real property or its title will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 17th day of January 2013.

/s/ AMBROSIO T. OGUMORO
Commissioner Department of Public Safety

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Swedish ice pole-sitting contest has 6 winners

STOCKHOLM (AP)—Six contestants have braved butt-numbing cold and boredom to win an annual ice pole-sitting contest in northern Sweden. Two women and four men shared the 20,000-kronor prize (\$3,100) for remaining on 8.25-foot-tall (2.5-meter) blocks of ice during the 48-hour contest, which ended Saturday. Competitors said the worst part of the competition was not the cold—temperatures dipped below -18 F (-28 C)—but the monotony, even though they were allowed to come down for 10-minute toilet breaks every other hour. Organizer Annica Andersson said the contest has been held annually for a dozen years, and was brought to the Swedish town of Vilhelmnina by a local resident who had participated in a similar competition in Russia.

Boy’s postcard mailed in 1967 turns up in Oklahoma

PAULS VALLEY, Okla. (AP)—It may have taken 46 years, but one boy’s postcard has made it home to Mom. Bert Jacobson sent the postcard to his mother in Pauls Valley, Okla., in January 1967, when he was 13 years old. The card, from the Old Country Store Museum in Hereford, Penn., arrived last Friday. Jacobson tells Tulsa television station KOTV that he traveled to the East Coast with his father and cousins to buy concrete trucks and mixing equipment for the family business. The postcard was sent with a 4-cent Abraham Lincoln stamp. The card reads: “Mom, Hi. We’ve been having a great time.” Jacobson’s sister, Marilyn Hubbard, says their mother wasn’t surprised that her son sent a card—only that it took 46 years to arrive.

Hacker warns of zombies on 2 Mich. TV broadcasts

MARQUETTE, Mich. (AP)—No, zombies aren’t attacking northern Michigan. Two local television stations say hackers broke into their Emergency Alert System with messages Monday warning of zombies. Along with a crawl strip, an audio message said “dead bodies are rising from their graves” and “attacking the living.” The messages ran on public station WNMU and WBUP. Two Montana stations also were hit. WNMU general manager Eric Smith says police determined the source isn’t local and may be from another country. He wasn’t aware of any arrests and says equipment changes have been made to prevent future incidents. The Michigan Association of Broadcasters told its members about programming changes to prevent hacking.

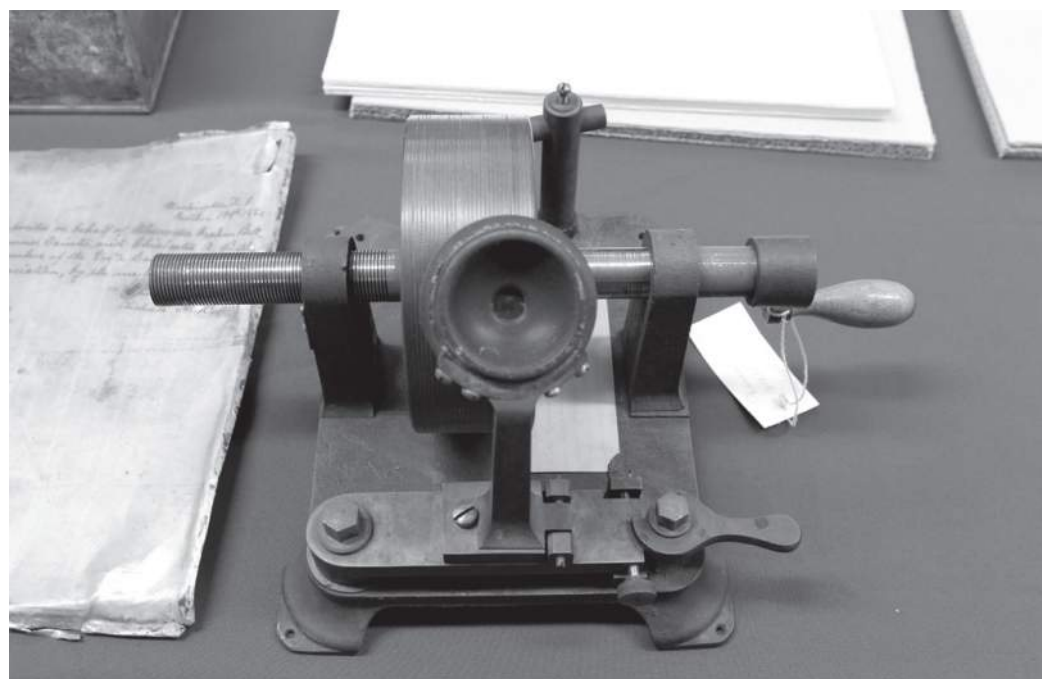
Science & Technology

Library of Congress has plan for saving recordings

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Library of Congress unveiled an extensive plan Wednesday to help libraries and archives nationwide preserve recorded sound to guard against losing historic recordings as has happened with those by George Gershwin, Frank Sinatra and Judy Garland.

About 14,000 public and private institutions hold sound recordings, according to one survey. The plan carries 32 recommendations as a blueprint to coordinate their efforts and enlist commercial recording studios and private copyright holders in preservation efforts. Congress called for a plan in a 2000 law on preserving audio recordings.

The Library of Congress already saves some key historic recordings each year, but researchers say many others are being lost due to a lack of storage capacity, changing technology, inadequate funding and



In this Dec. 13, 2011 file photo, Alexander Graham Bell's Graphophone 1881 is displayed during a news conference at Smithsonian's National Museum of American History in Washington.

disparate copyright laws.

"As a nation, we have good reason to be proud of our record

of creativity in the sound-recording arts and sciences," said Librarian of Congress James

Billington in announcing the effort. "However, our collective energy in creating and consum-

ing sound recordings has not been matched by an equal level of interest in preserving them for posterity." Researchers say more than half of the oldest recordings have already been lost including some by Gershwin, Sinatra and Garland.

Patrick Loughney, chief of the library's Packard Campus for Audio-Video Conservation in Culpeper, Va., said the nation has developed a "cultural amnesia," forgetting how much of its history was captured in recorded sound. The library estimates 46 million sound recordings are held by institutions, but a very small percentage have been preserved.

"Digital technologies, which are wonderful with YouTube and the easy access formats, do create the impression that everything is on the Internet now or soon will be," Loughney said. "In fact, there are vast areas of America's recorded sound history that aren't available."

The library plan calls for the creation of a national directory of all sound collections; a national collections policy to preserve recordings, radio broadcasts and neglected audio formats; and the creation of new university degree programs in

audio preservation.

The library also is calling on Congress to extend federal copyright law to cover audio recordings created before 1972 to establish a more uniform system. Those recordings currently fall under laws of various states and common law, creating a burden in tracking ownership of a recording. That often blocks efforts to make recordings more widely available to researchers, said Patrick Loughney.

The acoustical era from the late 1800s to about 1926, for example, includes important early recordings of jazz, vaudeville and burlesque that haven't been preserved or made publicly available, Loughney said. Much has already been lost.

The Library of Congress partnered with the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory at the University of California, Berkeley, to develop new technology over the past decade to create high-resolution digital scans of the earliest wax cylinder recordings. In late 2011, scientists and curators played back some of Alexander Graham Bell's earliest sound recording experiments for the first time, using the new technology.

Netflix connection problem has many possible solutions

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Last week, I suggested that Internet connection problems might be causing people to endure long pauses while streaming Netflix movies and TV shows. The video was moving through a home network to a Wi-Fi equipped Blu-ray disc player connected to a TV. I said the cause might be either the Internet service provider's speed slipping too low, or others in the household sharing the Internet connection while streaming was going on.

But things are rarely that neat. So here are some other plausible explanations, some suggested by readers and others found in Internet forums.

Here's a twist on my Internet connection theory: Maybe the home network's wireless router is being slowed down by interference from other wireless devices that share the same frequencies, such as smartphone Wi-Fi connections, Bluetooth cellphone headsets, cordless phones or wireless speakers.

But, if you have a dual-band router, you can switch frequencies to get rid of the interference and improve your Netflix streaming.

Netflix has an entirely different idea. It says the problem lies with Netflix settings that can be fixed by home users. The company suggests two approaches. One is the old shutdown technique; power down the Blu-ray player and restart it. If that doesn't work, Netflix suggests using the Blu-ray player's Netflix app to disconnect the player from Netflix, then reconnect it. Netflix has more details online at <http://www.tinyurl.com/a6orx2e>.

Chris Meehl, president of security-system installer Electronic Installations Inc. of Maple Grove, Minn., says the problem lies with Sony, whose Blu-ray players use a round-about method of streaming that causes glitches.

"Sony TVs and Blu-ray players stream Netflix through a secondary server at Sony, and that is the cause of the glitches and slow video performance,"

Meehl said.

Others say Panasonic Blu-ray players are to blame. The only way to fix that, the theory goes, is to do "a full factory reset through a hidden service menu that is only displayed on the front panel of the player."

So there you have it—five different proposed solutions for a single problem. Who says electronics aren't fun?

QUESTION: My PC received an email from someone with a Macintosh computer. I then changed the subject line and other aspects of the email and forwarded it to several people. But they all got the unaltered email I originally received. Why?—Tim Palmer, Lafayette, La.

ANSWER: The email you are forwarding is the one that's stored on your email server, not the one you are altering on your PC. As a result, the email changes you're making aren't reflected in the email that arrives in your recipients' inboxes.

Steve Alexander covers technol-

TECH BYTES

Apple cuts MacBook Pro price, updates processors

CUPERTINO, Calif. (AP)—Apple says it has lowered the price of its 13-inch MacBook Pro laptops by \$200 and updated its processors. It also launched new models with faster processors and more memory. Apple Inc. said Wednesday that the MacBook Pro with "Retina" display and 128 gigabytes of flash memory will now cost \$1,499, down from \$1,699. A new model with 256 gigabytes of flash will cost \$1,699. The 15-inch model has a faster processor and the same price. Apple unveiled the new MacBook Pro models last fall. It has flash memory instead of the traditional hard drive, which makes it thinner and lighter. Apple reported a surprising decline in Mac sales in the final quarter of 2012. It sold 4.1 million of them, down 22 percent from shipments a year earlier.

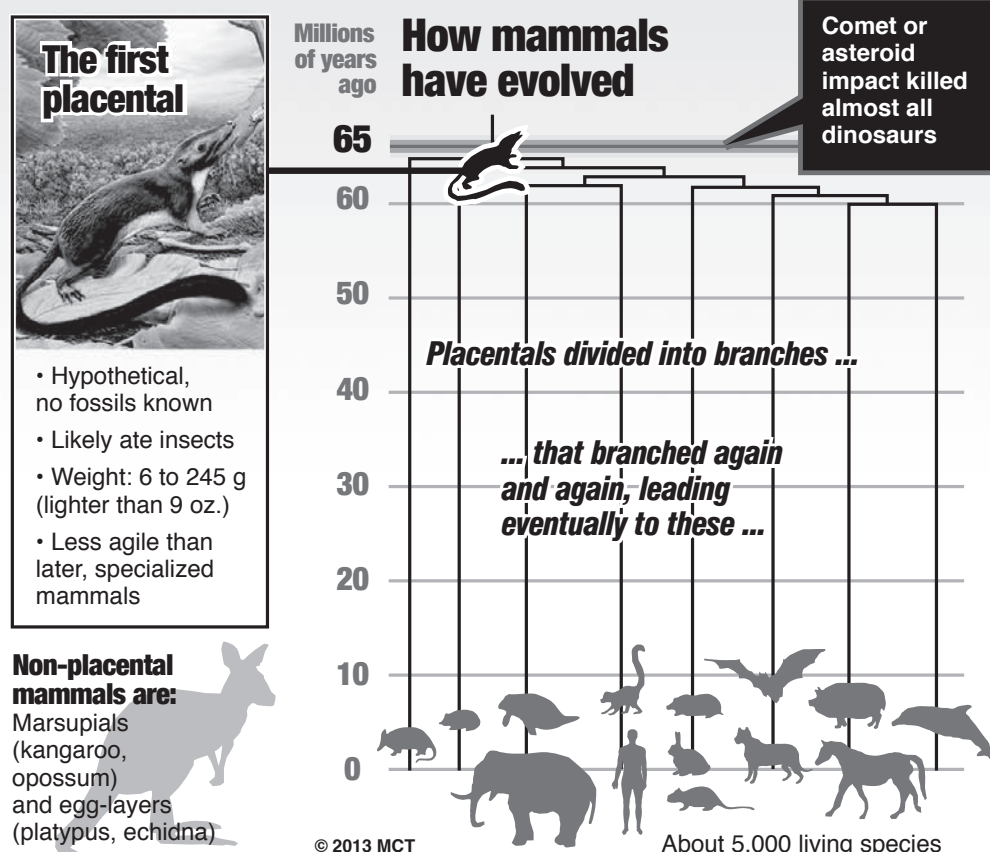
Gartner: Global cellphone sales fell in 2012

NEW YORK (AP)—Research firm Gartner says worldwide cellphone sales fell last year, as economic turmoil dampened shopper appetites. The decline was 1.7 percent, and it was the first time since 2009 that cellphone sales have fallen, Gartner says. Sales amounted to 1.75 billion units, meaning that one out of every four people on the planet bought a new cellphone last year. A competing research firm, IDC, last month said that sales grew at 1.2 percent last year. The firms agree that smartphone sales grew quickly, while non-smartphone sales declined by a roughly equal number. Samsung Electronics of Korea is the world's largest maker of phones, followed by Finland's Nokia Corp. and Apple Inc. of the US, according to both research firms.

Science Matters

Mammals' far-distant ancestor

Using a complex new method, scientists have built a new family tree for the "placentals" — 90 percent of all mammals — and it leads back to one small ancestor of them all.



Phylogenomics New technique combines two vast bodies of knowledge

Genomes DNA holds key to how species evolved in relation to each other, but it is not available for many ancient mammals



Body forms Studies of living mammals and fossil record hold a wealth of knowledge about mammal anatomy

Source: Maureen O'Leary of American Museum of Natural History, Science Graphic: Helen Lee McComas

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	\$6.00	Student Admission with Valid I.D.
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	\$2.50	Additional for 3D Shows

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Escape From Planet Earth 3D

Friday		9:45
Saturday and Sunday	4:00	9:45
Monday	4:00	
Tues through Thurs		

Cast: Brendan Fraser, Sarah Jessica Parker, Jessica Alba
Genre: Animation, Adventure, Comedy • Rated PG

Synopsis

Astronaut Scorch Supernova finds himself caught in a trap when he responds to an SOS from a notoriously dangerous alien planet.



Escape From Planet Earth 2D

Friday		7:00
Saturday and Sunday	1:00	7:00
Monday	1:00	7:00
Tues through Thurs		7:00

Cast: Brendan Fraser, Sarah Jessica Parker, Jessica Alba
Genre: Animation, Adventure, Comedy • Rated PG



Good Day To Die Hard

Friday		7:05	9:35
Saturday and Sunday	1:05	4:05	7:05
Monday	1:05	4:05	7:05
Tues through Thurs		4:05	7:05

Cast: Bruce Willis, Cole Hauser, Jai Courtney
Genre: Action • Rated R

Synopsis

The story is set in Russia and begins with John McClane heading to Moscow to sweet talk some cops into letting his apparently-wayward son out of jail for something he did, but when he gets there, things surrounding his son's arrest are not as they appear and world-threatening terrorist hijinks ensue.



Beautiful Creatures

Friday		7:30	10:00
Saturday and Sunday	1:30	4:30	7:30
Monday	1:30	4:30	7:30
Tues through Thurs		4:30	7:30

Cast: Emma Rossum, Emma Thompson, Jeremy Irons
Genre: Romance, Fantasy • Rated PG 13



Safe Haven

Friday		7:20	9:50
Saturday and Sunday	1:20	4:20	7:20
Monday	1:20	4:20	7:20
Tues through Thurs		4:20	7:20

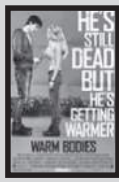
Cast: Julianne Hough, Josh Duhamel, David Lyons
Genre: Romance • Rated PG 13



Identity Thief

Friday		7:10	9:55
Saturday and Sunday	1:10	4:10	7:10
Monday	1:10	4:10	7:10
Tues through Thurs		4:10	7:10

Cast: Jason Bateman, Melissa McCarthy, John Cho
Genre: Comedy • Rated R



Warm Bodies

Friday		7:15	9:30
Saturday and Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:15
Monday	1:15	4:15	7:15
Tues through Thurs		4:15	7:15

Cast: Nicholas Hoult, Teresa Palmer, John Malkovich
Genre: Romance, Horror • Rated PG 13



Hansel and Gretel: Witch Hunters 3D

Friday		7:25	9:40
Saturday and Sunday	1:25	7:25	9:40
Monday	1:25	7:25	
Tues through Thurs		7:25	

Cast: Jeremy Renner, Gemma Arterton, Famke Janssen
Genre: Adventure • Rated R



Hansel and Gretel: Witch Hunters 2D

Friday		4:25
Saturday and Sunday		4:25
Monday		4:25
Tues through Thurs		4:25

Cast: Jeremy Renner, Gemma Arterton, Famke Janssen
Genre: Adventure • Rated R

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www.gohollywood.com

Life & Style

Mexican artist turns guns into musical instruments

MEXICO CITY (AP)—The guns that have caused so many deaths in northern Mexico are now making music.

Mechanical hammers ping against ammunition magazines from assault rifles. Gun barrels cut to different lengths ring like marimbas. Pistol parts strike metal plates, like cymbals, to create rhythmic, syncopated sounds.

"It's important to consider that many lives were taken with these weapons, as if a sort of exorcism was taking place," sculptor Pedro Reyes said in a description of his project emailed to The Associated Press.

When they were played, he said, "the music expelled the demons they held, as well as being a requiem for lives lost."

For the project titled "Dis-arm," Reyes said he was able to choose his instruments from about 6,700 guns that were turned in or seized by the army and police in Ciudad Juarez, a city of about 1.3 million people that averaged about 10 killings a day at the height of the violence. In 2010, Ciudad Juarez, across from El Paso, Texas. Juarez had a murder rate about 230 per 100,000 inhabitants. The nationwide rate for the U.S. that year was 4.8.

"The dramatic thing is that this is just the tip of the iceberg of all the weapons that are seized every day and that the army has to destroy," Reyes said in an interview as he demonstrated some of his computer controlled instruments that played a sort of industrial pop tinged with marimba.

Reyes already was known for a 2008 project called "Palas por Pistolas," or "Pistols to Shovels," in which he melted down 1,527 weapons to make the



Mexican sculptor Pedro Reyes poses behind an instrument that mimics the sound of a bass guitar, made from seized guns, at his workshop in Mexico City, Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2013. AP

same number of shovels to plant the same number of trees.

The new project began last year with a phone call offering him another chance to work with the seized guns.

"Normally, they bury or destroy them, but someone who works in the government said, 'Would you be interested in making a sculpture with this metal?'" he recalled.

Drug-cartel violence cost more than 70,000 lives in Mexico over the last six years and the weapons trafficking that has been a sore point; many of the weapons used by the cartels are smuggled across the border from the United States.

In 2012, then-president Felipe Calderon inaugurated a billboard in Ciudad Juarez which, facing Texas, spelled out the words "No More Weapons" in welded pieces of decommissioned guns.

First lady plugs 'Beasts of the Southern Wild'

WASHINGTON (AP)—Michelle Obama on Wednesday gushed over the Oscar-nominated film "Beasts of the Southern Wild," calling it one of the "most powerful and most important" movies in a long time in a ringing endorsement delivered less than two weeks before this month's Academy Awards ceremony.

The first lady commented during a Black History Month workshop at the White House for about 80 middle- and high-school students from the District of Columbia and New Orleans. The movie was set in Louisiana.

Students saw the film, then got to question director Benh Zeitlin and actors Dwight Henry and 9-year-old Quvenzhané Wallis. Wallis stars in the mythical tale of a 6-year-old girl named Hushpuppy struggling to survive in the southern Delta with her ailing father as a storm approaches. Her world

consists of a tight-knit, shantytown community on the bayou with wild animals, both real and imagined.

The film won four Oscar nominations, including for best picture, best actress and directing.

Mrs. Obama said she saw the 93-minute film over the summer with a large group of friends and family who ranged in age from 3 to 73, and they were enthralled by it.

"It's rare these days to find a movie that can so completely and utterly captivate such a broad audience and that was one of the things that struck me about this movie," she said. "It managed to be beautiful, joyful and devastatingly honest."

The first lady said "Beasts" makes viewers "think deeply about the people we love in our lives who make us who we are" and shows the strength of communities and the power they give others to

Reyes also hopes to take his message international, with an exhibition of the musical instruments in London's Lisson Gallery in March and later in the United States.

"This project has a pacifist intent, to create a global consciousness about arms trafficking," Reyes said.

Violence has become a theme in Mexican art in recent years. One artist from the violence-plagued state of Sinaloa, Teresa Margolles, works with artifacts collected from crime scenes, such as pieces of glass or cloth dabbled with mud and blood.

Reyes stresses that his work "is not just a protest, but a proposal."

"It occurred to me to make musical instruments, because music is the opposite of weapons," Reyes said. "This exercise of transformation we see with the guns, is what we would like to see in society."

overcome obstacles.

"It also tells a compelling story of poverty and devastation but also of hope and love in the midst of some great challenges," she said.

Mrs. Obama also said it was "cool" that "there are so many important lessons to learn in that little 93 minutes."

"That a director and a set of writers and producers can say so much in just 93 minutes," the first lady told the students. "And it doesn't always happen in a movie, quite frankly, but this one did it, and that's why I love this movie so much and why our team wanted to bring it here to the White House and share it with all of you."

Mrs. Obama also used the film to inspire her young audience, noting that Wallis was just 5 years old when she auditioned for the part and Henry, who runs a bakery, had never acted a day in his life.

Miss America pageant returns to Atlantic City, NJ

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP)—There she is, Miss America, headed back to Atlantic City.

The Miss America pageant, a staple in Atlantic City for decades before it was moved to Las Vegas in 2006, is making a return, Gov. Chris Christie's spokesman Michael Drewniak confirmed Wednesday. Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno was scheduled to make a formal announcement Thursday at Atlantic City's Boardwalk Hall.

The Miss America pageant started as little more than a bathing suit revue. It broke viewership records in its heyday and bills itself as one of the world's largest scholarship programs for women. But, like other pageants, it has struggled to stay relevant as national attitudes regarding women's rights have changed.

The news of the pageant's return to Atlantic City came as a surprise to the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, which sponsored the pageant on the Las Vegas Strip in January, spokeswoman Courtney Fitzgerald said in a telephone interview. In a subsequent statement, she said the tourism organization wished the pageant well in its new home.

"Las Vegas is honored to have hosted the Miss America pageant for the past seven years," she said. "We understand that moving the televised event to various cities showcases America's diverse destinations which represent our great country."

Pageant officials didn't immediately respond to after-hours phone and email messages seeking comment Wednesday.

Lady Gaga cancels rest of tour due to injured hip

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Lady Gaga has canceled the rest of her tour dates due to a hip injury.

Live Nation Global Touring said in a news release Wednesday that Lady Gaga has a tear in her right hip that will require surgery, followed by a recovery period.

The pop star's website showed 21 dates through March 20 remaining on her "Born This Way Ball" tour schedule. Fans

who have already bought tickets will receive a refund beginning Thursday.

Lady Gaga postponed four dates on Tuesday after experiencing difficulties Monday during her concert in Montreal. The singer's show is high energy with non-stop dancing. She explained to fans on Twitter that she'd hurt herself while performing some time ago.

She wrote: "I hid it from my staff, I didn't want to disappoint

my amazing fans. However after last night's performance I could not walk and still can't".

Gaga has not tweeted since.

A news release announcing postponements Tuesday said the 26-year-old singer, whose real name is Stefani Germanotta, was suffering from synovitis, an inflammation of the joints. She underwent tests Wednesday morning that showed she had a labral tear in her right hip, however. The la-

brum is a layer of muscle that helps hold the ball-shaped hip joint in place. The news release says the surgery will require strict downtime.

The tour, in support of her second album "Born This Way," began last April in Asia and was one of 2012's highest grossing.

Pollstar reported the tour made more than \$161 million in 2012 with an average attendance of more than 31,000, making it the fifth-highest grossing tour.

Actress Alyson Hannigan obtains restraining order

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A judge Wednesday granted Alyson Hannigan a temporary restraining order from a man who she claims has repeatedly threatened her and her family in online postings.

The order requires John Hobbs, 43, to stay away from the "How I Met Your Mother" actress and her family, and it orders him to stop posting messages about her online.

Hannigan states in her petition that in the past two months,

Hobbs, a New Hampshire resident, has "posted a barrage of threatening messages directed at me and my family on various websites."

The actress wrote that she has never met Hobbs, but his messages have suggested he will rape her and take her to the "afterlife." Hobbs recently was released from a mental hospital, according to the court filings.

"I am in severe fear for my safety and the safety of my family," she wrote.



Hannigan

Police in Hobbs' hometown of Nashua, N.H., contacted him and he acknowledged wanting to meet Hannigan, 38, and visit her in California.

"Hobbs seemed to be living in an alternate reality," the officer wrote after interviewing him and re-

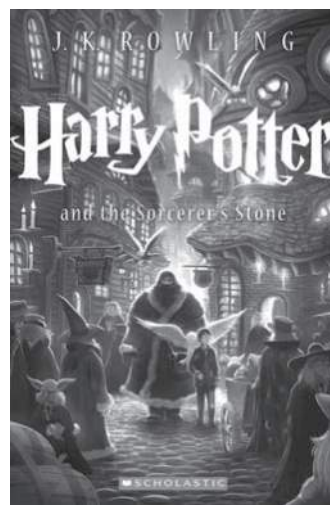
viewing his Facebook account.

A phone number registered to Hobbs has been disconnected.

A hearing to extend the restraining order for three years is scheduled for March 6 in Los Angeles. The order also covers Hannigan's husband, Alexis Denisof, and their children, ages 1 and 3.

Hannigan rose to fame after appearing in the movie "American Pie." She also starred in "Buffy the Vampire Slayer."

New US covers commissioned for Harry Potter books



AP

This book cover image released by Scholastic Inc., shows the cover for the U.S. trade paperback editions of J.K. Rowling's blockbuster "Harry Potter" series.

NEW YORK (AP)—The Harry Potter books are getting a makeover.

Scholastic Inc. announced Wednesday that new covers have been commissioned for U.S. trade paperback editions of J.K. Rowling's blockbuster series. The first new cover, for "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone," replaces Mary Grand-Pre's iconic sandy-colored design of Harry in flight with a purplish-blue street setting by graphic novelist Kazu Kibuishi. The GrandPre illustrations will still be used for hardcovers and mass market paperbacks.

The new edition of "Sorcerer's Stone" is scheduled for September, the 15th anniversary of Potter's debut in the U.S. The British editions are published by Bloomsbury. They have long had separate designs from the U.S. versions.

Cemeteries' peaceful repose is shattered by kids and dogs

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



DEAR ABBY: Please use your wide reach to educate well-meaning parents about how their children should behave when visiting cemeteries. I'm a funeral professional who takes pride in helping families honor their heritage and transition from grief to recovery. I especially enjoy helping to allay children's fears about death and cemeteries.

Often parents allow their children to roam

the cemetery as if it were a playground or public park. I have seen kids pull up expensive flowers on other graves and "take them to Mommy." Naturally, the family who bought the flowers come back a few days later and accuses US of trashing them.

I have seen mourners leave precious personal mementos on their loved ones' graves only for kids to take them as playthings. I have seen kids deface grave markers, entertain themselves by bouncing rocks off headstones or open up brass and bronze caskets, exposing the photos to the elements.

The worst is unsupervised kids running off in packs and gathering up the little colored flags that are placed to assure a grave gets dug and set up in time for a pending service. Imagine flying in for the burial of a loved one and the grave isn't ready because some child grabbed the marking flag while the parents stood idly by. Cemetery employees have been fired for this.

Parents, please teach your children that their natural curiosity and playfulness should find their outlet in more appropriate settings. And please, keep your dogs at home. You wouldn't want a stranger's dog doing his business on your expensive marker or loved one's grave, would you?

THE LAST PERSON TO LET YOU DOWN IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR LAST PERSON TO LET YOU DOWN: I'm happy to spread the word.

Folks, if your children are too young to understand when you tell them the cemetery isn't a playground, that they must remain quiet, respectful and not touch other people's property, then they should not be present at the burial. When entering or leaving the cemetery, children and adults should refrain from walking on the graves. Ditto for using it as a dog park.

The Golden Rule applies here: Don't do unto others what you wouldn't want them to do ONTO you.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: When I married, I moved away to another state and made some great new friends where I live now. My family visits every few months and I recently started including some of my friends in my family gatherings and bringing some of them home with me when my husband and I go to visit.

I recently found out that my family has been inviting my friends for weekend getaways and camping trips. They even invited my friends to spend the last long holiday weekend with them—without inviting me!

I was hurt and offended when I found out. I have nothing against my family and friends getting along, but I always thought I'd be included. Am I overreacting?

EXCLUDED IN ROCHESTER, N.Y.

DEAR EXCLUDED: Perhaps. Not knowing your friends or family members, I can only guess that when you introduced them they may have found some interest in common that you don't necessarily share. But don't waste time on hurt feelings or pouting because you don't own your friends, and what your relatives choose to do with their time is out of your control.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

■■■

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Actress considers deal in NY Baldwin stalking case

NEW YORK (AP)—A Canadian actress accused of stalking Alec Baldwin is considering a plea deal.

Genevieve Sabourin appeared Wednesday in a Manhattan court. The case was adjourned until Thursday as she and prosecutors try to hammer out a deal.

Sabourin lives in Quebec and has acted in television and film.

She and Baldwin met on the set of the 2002 sci-fi comedy "The Adventures of Pluto Nash." He had a cameo and she was a publicist. Baldwin says they had dinner together in 2010.

Police originally arrested

Sabourin after authorities said she had implored Baldwin to see and to marry her in emails sent only days after he became engaged to yoga instructor Hilaria Thomas.

His publicist confirmed Tuesday that Baldwin and his now-wife are expecting their first child together.



AP

This Nov. 4, 2012 file photo shows actor Alec Baldwin, right, and his wife Hilaria Thomas at the "Rise of The Guardians" special screening during the 2012 AFI FEST at Grauman's Chinese Theatre in the Hollywood section of Los Angeles.

Model Kloss wouldn't miss fashion week 'reunion'

NEW YORK (AP)—Karlie Kloss is a favorite finale model, closing the catwalk again Wednesday at Michael Kors at New York Fashion Week. She did the same the night before, escorting Oscar de la Renta for his bow.

It's these close ties to fashion designers that put her on the red-eye from Los Angeles after the Grammy Awards on Sunday

so she could make it to Carolina Herrera's runway bright and early the next morning.

"These are my friends. That's why I got back in time. It's a family reunion at fashion week," Kloss said.

She did have a blast acting as MTV's red-carpet hostess and style expert. "It was really interesting to be on the other side.

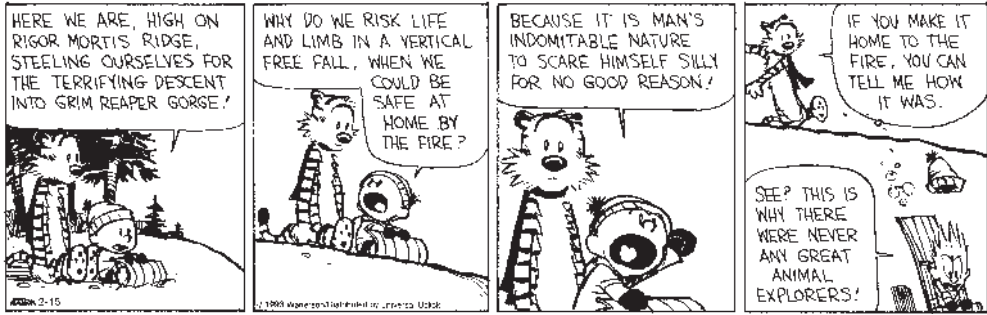
I got to talk to Jennifer Lopez about her Anthony Vaccarello gown—and I was in the Anthony Vaccarello show," Kloss said in an interview Tuesday.

"I don't know everything about music, but my knowledge of fashion let me enjoy it all and I could bring that element to it. ... It was full circle, and that made it fun."

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



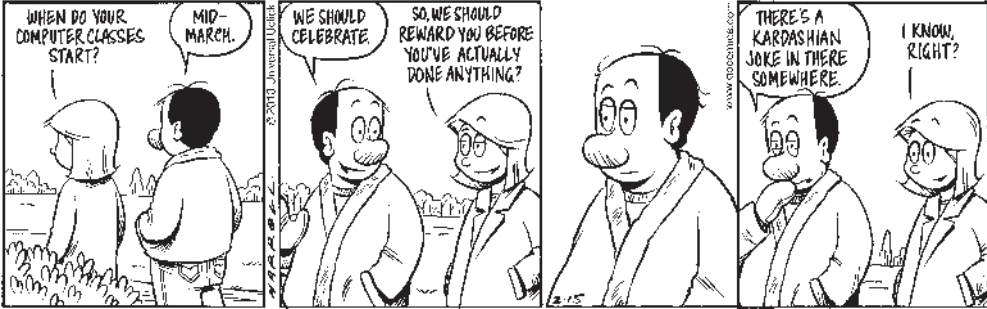
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



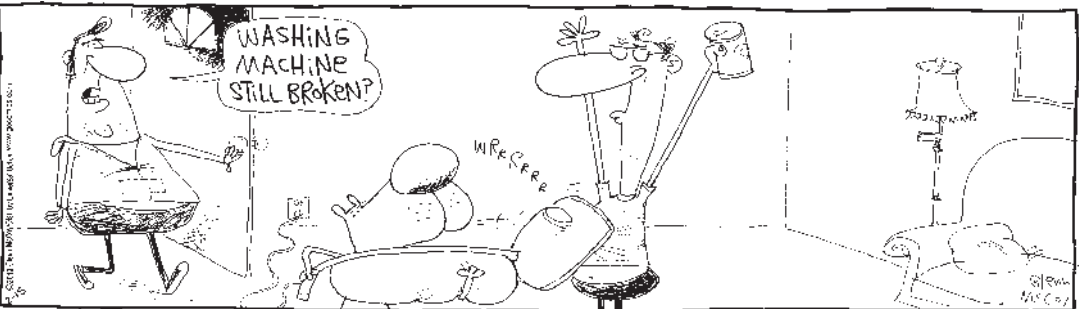
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Cleo's slayer
4 — de
7 Ornamental loop
12 Neither mate
13 Performance
14 Wahine's greeting
15 Excessively
16 Intercom speaker
18 — Impossible
19 African capital
20 At the home of (Fr.)
22 — be an honor
23 Maja painter
27 Table scrap
29 Luxury stadium seating
31 Italian isle
34 Put one's two cents in
35 Fridge

DOWN

1 Caper
2 Start for "sayer"
3 Regular writing
5 Find not
6 Action-film sequence
7 Fido's feet
8 Sort
9 Corn castoff
10 "So that's it, eh?"
11 Earner's burden
17 Helps
18 1964
21 Anthony Quinn role
23 "Everything's Coming Up Roses" musical
24 Sapporo sash
25 Thither
26 Lumberjack's prop
28 Carnival site
30 Pond carp
31 Spanish literary hero
32 Expert
33 Chest muscle, for short
36 Intersection, on signs
37 Indicate
40 Moroccan city
42 Last letter
43 Mid-eastern land
44 Beginning
45 Division word
46 CEO, e.g.
48 Crafty
49 Earl Grey, e.g.
50 "Go, team!"
51 Bear, in Barcelona

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterday's answer 2-15

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Zachary Gordon, 15; Amber Riley, 27; Matt Groening, 59; Jane Seymour, 62.

Happy Birthday: Old problems will surface. Address any unfinished business quickly in order to move in a direction better suited to you and your needs. Don't be a follower, especially if it will lead you to excess, poor health or investing unwisely. Focus on self-improvement and setting goals that will bring you an improved lifestyle. Call the shots. Your numbers are 6, 10, 22, 36, 39, 46, 48.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): This is the time to take action, not judge. You can make a difference in both your life and those around you if you are disciplined and engage in following through with specific suggestions that you feel can improve your life. ****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Put pressure on someone you feel can help out your situation. Make a move to reform what you don't like and you will find that you are at the helm of a cause that can make a difference. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Uncertainty is the enemy. You have to size up your situation and trust in your own judgment. Once you realize that it's what matters to you that counts, you will be able to move forward personally, professionally and financially. ****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Surprise those around you with your keen memory and unique ideas based on past successes. Travel plans should be put into play, especially if they will bring you closer to the people you love or strengthen your beliefs. ****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't mix emotions with business or you will risk damaging your reputation. A change of heart will turn out in your favor. Suggest to anyone putting demands on you that they put the pressure on themselves instead. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Reevaluate your partnerships. Decide what's working well and what isn't. Cut your losses before you are forced to take a fall for someone else's mistakes. Use innovative means to separate what you want from what's currently taking place. *****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Engage in laughter and entertainment. Love and romance are enhanced, and spending time with people you care about will lead to better relationships. Travel and gaining experience are highlighted. Focus on what makes you happy and you will achieve success. ****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Pick and choose your options carefully, especially if they have to do with your home and personal life. Emotions will surface, and taking care of any relationship problems now will help you avoid further discord. Follow your instincts. ****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You'll have to make choices that will not please everyone. Base your decisions on facts and figures, not on emotions. An unexpected alteration at home will turn out in your favor, so don't sweat about it. *****

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Rely on past experience to help you move forward. Resurrect old plans and engage in talks with old work buddies who you feel can contribute. Taking control will lead to success. Avoid impulsive people. ****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You've got what it takes to make things happen. Choose your direction and follow through. Love is in the stars and talking with someone you want to see more of to work toward a common goal will improve your life. ****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Disclose the way you feel and you will be able to take care of any misconception someone might have of you. Your actions will prove that you are serious about what you want and what you plan to do. There is money to be made. ****

Birthday Baby: You are adaptable, intuitive and expressive. You are original and excessive.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](http://twitter.com/eugenialast).

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

2/15

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

Difficulty Level ★★★

2/14

WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

SAYING GOODBYE. Solution: 4 letters

STFTIGLYNOMERECHE
FNOITARAPESXOAA
REEHCTDATEPSPON
IMUTEEWSMRMPGOD
EETNERWOEYYBIUS
NREPIOHSSSLTTATH
DIRTBTSEAOORORA
GTMEUONUVMIRAK
NEIXCPTOEAYDSPE
ORNIKISSCDEPART
LCATRGNISSELBIR
OLLECNACDCISOAA
SAGATHERINGDPPV
VKCAPEAAKPYAAE
EGNAHCLSGNIVAE

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2/15

Adios, Airport, Away, Blessing, Bows, Cancel, Cards, Ceremony, Change, Cheer, Clap, Date, Deep, Depart, Discontinue, Dispute, Door, Elope, Embark, Emotion, Exit, Express, Friend, Gathering, Gifts, Handshake, Happy, Homes, Hugs, Kiss, Lapse, Later, Leave, Leaving, Links, Mute, Pack, Party, Picnic, Retirement, Ritual, Separation, Socials, So Long, Special, Story, Terminal, Travel.

Yesterday's Answer: Co-worker

The NEW Treasury 1000 will be the best way to keep up with the latest in the financial world. It's the only one that's been around for over 100 years. It's the only one that's been around for over 100 years. It's the only one that's been around for over 100 years.

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99c per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CLASSIFIED ADS



EMPLOYMENT



1 Administrative/Accounting Clerk, \$5.55 to \$6.60: Must have more than 5 years experience in accounting work; at least 1 year work experience in public accounting office; at least 4 years work experience in administrative position and exposure working with the company executives; knowledge in Quickbooks, Peachtree, FAS & tax software. Please mail your resume to P.O. Box 503198, Saipan MP 96950 (Ernst & Young (CNMI), Inc.)

1 Accountant: \$5.05-8.50/hr. Bachelor's degree in accounting required. Must be familiar with U.S. GAAP. Public accounting experience required. Email resume to hps@hanmisaipan.com.

1 Piano teacher: \$1,800/mo. Bachelor's degree in music education and at least five years of experience required. Email resume to yonsei@hanmisaipan.com.

1 Electrician. \$5.55/hr. Mail resume to C & H Saipan, Inc. P.O. Box 501608 Saipan, MP 96950.

1 Building & Grounds Maintenance. \$5.55/hr. Mail resume to Pacific International Marianas Inc. dba Midway Motors. P.O. Box 500887 Saipan, MP 96950.

Needed Admin Assistant minimum 5 yrs experience, organized, Excel, Word, PowerPoint. Bookkeeping, Quickbooks a plus. Please call N15Architects 233-5115.

2 CAD operators, minimum 5 yrs exp, ACAD v2012: one Public Utilities-Water & Wastewater; one CAD architect w degree. Please call N15Architects 233-5115.

Building Maintenance (1) – with experience & knowledge on electrical and carpentry work. Send resume to K. Young Corporation. P.O. Box 503275, Tel. 233-9876.

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Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. \$450-\$550/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

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24 hours Hot Water
Fully furnished
\$550/month

Next to the beach - Ocean view
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At least 5 yrs experience. Proficient on layout & installation of electrical wiring, equipment, and fixtures.

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Saipan Apparel. Tel. 235-1680

Vacancy Announcement

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Submit Applications to:
Pam Pacific Enterprises Corp.
Tel. 235-7270

Vacancy Announcement

1-Maintenance

At least high school graduate. A valid driver's license. Ability to use efficiently various power and hand tools. Knows how to follow oral or written instructions and can communicate efficiently and fluently in both written and oral form.
Submit Applications to:
Saipan Apparel Printing, LLC.
Tel. 235-1680

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➤ Metal Roofing Panels for Sale

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Cook (1): Must be experienced & skilled in preparing Japanese cuisine including but not limited to sushi, sashimi & tempura. Can prepare all menu items according to quantity menus. Must be able to maintain kitchen & observe safety & sanitary food handling practices as well as other related duties.

Additional Requirements: All applicants must be of good health and have a good moral character. Must be able to follow grooming standards. Must be able to obtain health certificate. Must be able to provide current police clearance. With reliable transportation and must agree to drug test.

Applicants of position listed above are required to have a minimum of 3-5 years experience. Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant, MISA Bldg., 1 Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan. Please no phone calls.

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(2) Mechanic
(2) Customer Representative
(1) Maintenance Worker
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- In-service train with Baxter Phoenix machine.
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Clippers beat Rockets for third straight win



LOS ANGELES (AP)—Caron Butler scored 17 of his 19 points in the opening quarter when the Clippers shot 77 percent and Los Angeles led all the way in beating the Houston Rockets 106-96 on Wednesday night for their third win in a row.

Blake Griffin had 20 points and 11 rebounds, Chauncey Billups had 19 points, Jamal Crawford scored 13 points and Chris Paul had 10 points and 11 assists as the Clippers started all their regulars after the lineup had been hit by injuries during their recent Grammy road trip.

Chandler Parsons scored 17 points, Jeremy Lin added 14 points and James Anderson had a season-high 14 for the Rockets, who have lost five straight to the Clippers and three of five overall.

James Harden missed the game with a sprained right ankle and sore left knee after stepping on David Lee's left shoe in the fourth quarter against Golden State. Harden is the Rockets' lone All-Star selection.

With the Clippers' powerful starters reunited and shooting their highest percentage in a quarter this season, it wasn't enough that the Rockets shot 50 percent in the first. They still trailed 46-28 as the Clippers scored their most points in a period since 1986.

Los Angeles cooled off in the second but still led 69-49 at the break.

Crawford's 3-pointer pushed the Clippers' lead to 23 points early in the second before the Rockets cut it to 11 points on a basket by Lin. Then Los Angeles closed on a 10-2 run to end the half, punctuated by DeAndre Jordan's one-handed dunk off Paul's alley-oop pass.

Griffin's hook put the Clippers ahead by 22 points early in the third and the Rockets trailed 88-72 heading into the fourth.

The Rockets got within 11 points on two free throws by Anderson early in the fourth before the Clippers' starters returned and stretched their lead.

Butler and Billups were game-time decisions after both had sore lower backs. Paul recently returned after missing 12 games with a bruised right knee cap, while Griffin came back after missing a couple games with a strained left hamstring.

Spurs 96, Cavaliers 95

In Cleveland, Kawhi Leonard made a 3-pointer with 2.9 seconds remaining to give the San Antonio Spurs a win over the Cleveland Cavaliers.

Leonard's basket came after Dion Waiters' jumper with 9.5 seconds to go put Cleveland up 95-93.

The Spurs, who have won 14 of 15, had stars Tim Duncan, Tony Parker and Manu Ginobili on the floor together for the first time since Jan. 13.

Kyrie Irving, who was held to a season-low six points, missed a desperation runner from the top of the key as time expired.

Tony Parker led the Spurs with 24 points while Gary Neal scored 15.

Duncan, who had missed eight of the last nine games with a sore left knee, scored 13 points in 25 minutes. Ginobili had five points in nine minutes off the bench after missing nine of the last 13 games with a tight left hamstring.

Raptors 92, Knicks 88

In New York, reserve Alan Anderson scored 26 points in one of the few good offensive performances for either team, and Toronto beat New York for its fourth straight victory.

DeMar DeRozan added 20 points for the Raptors, who overcame a 4-for-21 performance from Rudy Gay because Knicks star Carmelo Anthony was just as bad. Anthony finished with 12 points and 12 rebounds but shot 5 of 24 for the Knicks, who dropped their final two games leading into the All-Star break.

J.R. Smith led the Knicks with 26 points. Raymond Felton had 16 but shot 3 of 9.

Gay finished with 11 points one night after hitting the go-ahead basket with 4.9 seconds left in a victory over Denver.

Mavericks 123, Kings 100

In Dallas, Vince Carter scored 26 points to pass Larry Bird on the NBA's career scoring list, and Dallas Mavericks headed into the All-Star break with a victory against Sacramento.

Carter scored 17 of Dallas' last 21 points in the third quarter to help turn aside a Sacramento rally. He made five of seven 3-pointers in the quarter and ended the night with 21,796 career points for 29th on the all-time list. Bird had 21,791.

Dirk Nowitzki finished with 17 points, including a 3-pointer to put Dallas ahead 100-79 early in the fourth quarter.

Tyreke Evans scored 23 as the Kings lost their 18th regular season game in a row in Dallas.

Nets 119, Nuggets 108

In New York, Joe Johnson scored 26 points, including five 3-pointers, and C.J. Watson added 25 points and five 3s to help Brooklyn beat Denver.

All-Star center Brook Lopez had 23 points and eight rebounds, and Kris Humphries chipped in with 14 points for Brooklyn.

The 119 points were a season high for the Nets, who also tied a season best with 16 3-pointers.

Brooklyn is now 2-1 in games played without star point guard Deron Williams, who has sat out the last two due to sore ankles.

Ty Lawson led the Nuggets with 26 points and hit all of his five 3-point attempts.

Pacers 101, Bobcats 77

In Indianapolis, Paul George posted his first career triple-double with 23 points, 12 rebounds and a career-high 12 assists, and Indiana snapped a two-game skid with a win over Charlotte.

Tyler Hansbrough tied a season high with 19 points and



Los Angeles Clippers forward Blake Griffin goes up for a shot as Houston Rockets forward Patrick Patterson watches during the first half of their NBA basketball game, Wednesday, Feb. 13, 2013, in Los Angeles.

AP

Turkoglu banned 20 games for positive steroid test

ORLANDO, Florida (AP)—Orlando Magic forward Hedo Turkoglu of Turkey was suspended 20 games by the NBA on Wednesday after testing positive for steroids.

The NBA said Turkoglu tested positive for methenolone, an anabolic steroid. He began serving the suspension Wednesday night when the Magic hosted the Atlanta Hawks.

Turkoglu took full responsibility for the positive test and apologized to the Magic organization, fans and fellow teammates. He said he took medication from a trainer in Turkey this past summer to help him

recover from a shoulder injury and mistakenly neglected to check it against the NBA's list of banned substances.

"As a player this is the worst situation that you want to be in," Turkoglu said. "I'm just sorry to put the organization in this situation. ... I should have double-checked and researched and shouldn't be in this situation."

He is the eighth player suspended for performance-enhancing drugs under the NBA's drug testing policy. He is the second Magic player to be suspended under the policy in four years. Former Magic forward Rashard Lewis was suspended 10 games

in 2009 after testing positive for an elevated testosterone level.

Turkoglu said he was tested by the league in December and learned of the suspension Tuesday night. General manager Rob Hennigan said Turkoglu informed the team of the positive test a week ago.

Turkoglu sat out the Magic's past three games for what the team said were flu-like symptoms and a sore back. Hennigan said those ailments were legitimate and unrelated to the positive test.

It is the latest in a string of bad news for Turkoglu during the past year.

grabbed 10 rebounds for the Pacers starting in place of David West, who was sidelined by an eye injury.

Byron Mullens led the Bobcats with 19 points and Gerald Henderson chipped in 14.

The first quarter started as a shootout with Indiana and Charlotte combining for 59 points on 55.6 percent shooting. The Pacers held a 30-29 lead after the first before limiting the Bobcats to 23 percent shooting (14-for-61) over the final three quarters.

Hawks 108, Magic 76

In Orlando, Florida, Josh Smith had 30 points and 10 rebounds, and Al Horford added 26 points and 12 rebounds to help Atlanta blow past Orlando.

The Hawks led by as many as

38 and decimated the Magic defense on the way to earning their ninth consecutive regular-season win over their division rivals.

Jameer Nelson and Andrew Nicholson led the Magic with 10 points apiece. No other Orlando players reached double-figures.

The Magic, who have lost 24 of their last 27 games, were dealt a blow earlier in the day when the NBA announced that forward Hedo Turkoglu will be suspended 20 games for a positive steroid test.

Celtics 71, Bulls 69

In Boston, Kevin Garnett scored eight of his 12 points in the fourth quarter and added 11 rebounds, and Boston overcame poor shooting to beat Chicago.

Paul Pierce went only 2 for 12 from the floor but he hit a 3-pointer that bounced around the rim to give Boston a five-point lead with 3 minutes to play. The Celtics shot just 36.8 percent but still had the advantage over the Bulls, who made just 36.5 percent of their shots.

Joakim Noah had 10 points and 16 rebounds, and Carlos Boozer had 11 and 11 for Chicago. Reserve Marco Belinelli added 12 points in under 20 minutes for the Bulls.

The Celtics' eight points in the third quarter were the team's fewest in a period this season.

Pistons 96, Wizards 85

In Auburn Hills, Michigan, Will Bynum scored six of his 20 points during a late run to help

lead Detroit to a win over Washington.

With the game tied at 76, Bynum scored six straight points to give Detroit the lead with 3:23 to play. Jose Calderon pushed it to nine with a 3-pointer, and the margin was 11 before John Wall broke Detroit's surge.

Calderon led the Pistons with 24 points, while Greg Monroe finished with 16 points and 18 rebounds as Detroit rebounded from a lopsided home loss Monday to New Orleans.

Emeka Okafor had 20 points for the Wizards, and Wall finished with 16 points and nine assists.

Bucks 94, 76ers 92

In Milwaukee, Monta Ellis scored 28 points, Brandon Jennings added 21 and Milwaukee rallied in the fourth quarter for a victory over Philadelphia.

Samuel Dalembert had 17 points and 14 rebounds for the Bucks, who ended a four-game losing streak. Milwaukee heads into the All-Star break with a four-game lead over the 76ers for the eighth and final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.

Evan Turner had 20 points for Philadelphia, while Spencer Hawes added 19 points and nine rebounds. Jrue Holiday had 16 points and 12 assists for the Sixers.

Milwaukee didn't take its first lead until about 9:20 remained.

Jazz 97, Timberwolves 93

In Minneapolis, Al Jefferson had 20 points and 11 rebounds, and Paul Millsap scored 21 points to power Utah Jazz to a victory over Minnesota.

Jefferson helped the Jazz overcome a sluggish start against his former team to pick up a rare road win against a Western Conference opponent. Utah is 4-13 on the road against the West.

Derrick Williams had 24 points and a career-high 16 rebounds, and Ricky Rubio had 18 points, 10 assists and nine rebounds for the Timberwolves, who shot a season-low 34 percent.

Nikola Pekovic had 19 points and 13 rebounds, and Luke Ridnour scored 18 points for Minnesota, which lost for the 16th time in 19 games.

Hornets 99, Trail Blazers 93

In New Orleans, Anthony Davis had 21 points and 11 rebounds, and New Orleans handed Portland its fifth straight loss.

Davis, who missed all seven of his field goal attempts on Monday night in Detroit, was 10 of 17 against Portland, scoring on an array of dunks, tip-shots and even jumpers from as deep as 20 feet. Ryan Anderson added 14 points and Jason Smith 13, both in reserve roles. Greivis Vasquez had 10 points and eight assists in 26 minutes.

Damian Lillard had 12 points and Victor Claver 11 for Portland, which lost starting guard Wesley Matthews to a sprained right ankle early in the game and played poorly throughout.

Jacques Rogge to meet with wrestling leader

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (AP)—Facing a wave of criticism from around the world, IOC President Jacques Rogge will meet with the head of wrestling's governing body to discuss ways the sport can fight to save its place in the Olympics.

The IOC executive board dropped wrestling from the program of the 2020 Games on Tuesday, a decision which brought a sharp backlash from wrestling organizations and national Olympic bodies around the world—including the United States, Russia and Iran.

The move must still be ratified by the full International Olympic Committee in September, giving wrestling time to try to overturn a decision against a sport which dates back to the ancient Olympics and has been featured since the inaugural modern games in 1896.

Rogge said Wednesday he has been contacted by Raphael Martinetti, the Swiss president of international wrestling federation FILA, and was encouraged by the sport's resolve to make changes and fight for its place.

"We agreed we would meet at the first opportunity to have discussions," Rogge said at a news conference at the close of a two-day board meeting. "I should say FILA reacted well to this disheartening news for them."

"They vowed to adapt the sport and vowed to fight to be eventu-

ally included in the 2020 slot."

Wrestling, which remains on the program for the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, still has a chance to stay on the list for 2020—if it manages to respond decisively to the wakeup call and convince the IOC to reverse course.

"This is not the end of the day. The door is not closed," IOC Vice President Thomas Bach of Germany said. "It's good to see the reaction of FILA to say, 'OK we have understood, we have to do something and we will present a plan for the future of wrestling.' That is the right attitude."

Wrestling now joins seven other sports vying for one opening on the 2020 program: a combined bid from baseball and softball, karate, squash, roller sports, sport climbing, wakeboarding and the martial art of wushu.

The IOC executive board will meet in May in St. Petersburg, Russia, to decide which sport or sports to propose for 2020 inclusion. The final vote will be made at the IOC general assembly in September in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

"The vote of yesterday is not an elimination of wrestling from the Olympic Games," Rogge said. "Wrestling will participate in the games in Rio de Janeiro. To the athletes who train now, I say, 'Continue training for your participation in Rio. Your fed-

eration is working for the inclusion in the 2020 Games.'"

Rogge was asked whether Tuesday's decision marked an end to wrestling's Olympic hopes.

"I cannot look into a crystal ball into the future," he said. "We have established a fair process by which the sport that would not be included in the core has a chance to compete with the seven other sports for the slot on the 2020 Games."

Rogge said he was fully aware of the strength of criticism leveled at the IOC for the move.

"We knew even before the decision was taken whatever sport would not be included in the core program would lead to criticism from the supporters of that sport," he said.

Still, complaints continued to pour in Wednesday from different parts of the world, uniting the U.S. and Iran on an issue in ways never imagined in diplomatic circles. The U.S. and Russia were also unlikely allies in the save-wrestling campaign.

Alexander Zhukov, head of the Russian Olympic Committee, said he would write to Rogge and "use all of our strength to persuade the IOC not to exclude wrestling from the Olympic program."

Wrestling has been one of Russia's strongest sports: Soviet and Russian wrestlers have won 77 gold medals.



In Tehran, Iranian wrestler Ali Reza Dabir, a gold medalist in 2000 Sydney Games, called wrestling "the identity" of the Olympics.

"Do we destroy our historical sites which are symbols of humanity?" he told The Associated Press. "No. Then, why should we destroy wrestling?"

The Wrestling Federation of India said it would do all that it can to reverse the decision, and the Olympic committee in Greece—the birthplace of the ancient and modern games—condemned "a decision that is clearly in total opposition to the history of the Olympic Games and of sports in general."

On Tuesday, U.S. Olympic Committee CEO Scott Blackmun questioned the IOC decision "given the history and tradition of wrestling, and its popularity and universality."

There are potential scenarios that would work in wrestling's favor.

IOC officials said it's possible the executive board could decide in May to put three sports forward for consideration, including wrestling. Then it would be up to the assembly to approve wrestling or not.

If the board decides to keep wrestling off the list, the IOC assembly—which has resisted past attempts by the board to impose changes to the sports program—could reject the proposed list of 25 sports altogether.

Bonds seeks dismissal of felony conviction



SAIPAN
FRANCISCO
(AP)—A

lawyer for Barry Bonds urged a federal appeals court on Wednesday to toss out the slugger's obstruction of justice conviction, saying a rambling answer he gave while testifying before a grand jury was not a crime.

Appellate specialist Dennis Riordan argued that Bonds was not formally or specifically charged with the felony that he was convicted of committing. A federal jury in April 2011 found baseball's all-time home runs leader guilty of obstruction for saying he was a "celebrity child" when asked about injecting steroids.

Prosecutors asked Bonds during his December 2003 grand jury appearance whether Greg Anderson, his personal trainer, ever gave him "anything that required a syringe to inject yourself with?"

Bonds referred to his father, former major leaguer Bobby Bonds, when he responded "that's what keeps our friendship. You know, I am sorry, but that—you know, that—I was a celebrity child, not just in baseball by my own instincts. I became a celebrity child with a famous father. I just don't get into other people's business because of my father's

situation, you see ..."

That particular exchange wasn't included in the indictment originally released in November 2007. The omission is "the dagger in the heart of this conviction," Riordan argued.

Further, Riordan said that Bonds ultimately answered the question when put to him again and denied receiving any substance to inject.

Judge Michael Daly Hawkins wondered aloud if Bonds' direct denial undercut the government's argument that Bonds intentionally misled the grand jury.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Merry Jean Chan countered that the denial was a lie because Bonds' former personal assistant, Cathy Hoskins, testified that she witnessed Anderson inject Bonds. Chan said Bonds' denial and his other rambling answers to the same question throughout his grand jury appearance added up to obstruction.

"He answered the question falsely each time," she said.

Bonds and his legal team are asking a three-judge panel of the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals to dismiss the lone felony conviction stemming from Bonds' 2 1/2 hours of testimony in December 2003 before a grand jury investigating performance enhancing drug use and sales among elite athletes.

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Shirley's shuts out MP United

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Shirley's FC kicked off its campaign in the girls

U15 division of the 2013 NMIFA Spring Youth League with an emphatic 3-0 victory over MP United last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

With both teams coming off a break for more than two months, Shirley's and MP United struggled in the first half, failing to light up the scoreboard. Then in the second half, Shirley's found its form to start the season on a winning note.

Elaine Enriquez and Diana Maniacop delivered one goal apiece for Shirley's, while Diane Pablo also made it to the scoreboard off a penalty kick.

The Shirley's-MP United tiff was one of the two girls U15



Two Shirley's FC defenders are in a foot race against MP United's Kyla Ito during the girls U15 game in the NMIFA spring league Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

matches played in the season-opening of the youth league, but results of the Matansa and

Paire game were unavailable at press time.

The season will continue this

Saturday with Shirley's going for its second straight win against Paire at 4pm or after Tan Holdings FC-MP United duel at 2:30pm. Matansa drew a bye in Week 2.

In other Week 1 results, MP United and Tan Holdings prevailed in their boys U15 and U18 games, respectively.

MP United blanked Shirley's FC, 2-0, last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex.

Sun Joon Tenorio drew first blood for MP United, scoring in the fifth minute, while Daniel Lim logged the other goal in the 63rd.

In the other boys U15 match, Matansa was scheduled to square off against Paire last Friday, also at the Oleai pitch, but results of the game were unavailable at press time.

In the lone boys U18 tiff played at the Oleai pitch last Saturday, Tan Holdings dominated Paire, 4-1. Sean Perez had a hat-trick for Tan Holdings and Dan Deric Ibarra contributed

one goal.

Perez scored his first goals of the season in the 20th minute to put Tan Holdings in the lead. Then Paire briefly tied the match off Seiya Eda's goal in the 28th before Perez got her second goal five minutes later to put Tan Holdings back in the driver's seat at halftime.

In the second half, Ibarra opened Tan Holdings' offense

with his goal in the 51st minute, while Perez made it a 4-1 advantage with a penalty shot 13 minutes later.

Only three teams are playing in the boys U18 with MP United joining the field and having its first game of the season this Saturday against Tan Holdings. The MP United-Tan Holdings tussle will be played at the Hopwood pitch at 11am.

Tinian Pika 5K Fun Run tomorrow



The Tinian Mayor's Office and various sponsors are holding a 5K fun run tomorrow on Tinian during the annual Hot Pepper Festival, known also as the Pika Festival.

The first 25 finishers of the 5K fun run will receive T-shirts provided by Tinian resident and lawyer Janet King.

The 5K course begins and ends at the Taga Beach parking lot. The turnaround point and water station will be at the picturesque Lookout Point near

Suicide Cliff.

Onsite registration for the 5K fun run begins this Saturday at 6:15am with the race scheduled for 7am.

Meanwhile, a 30K bike race will also be held this weekend. Onsite registration for Sunday bike race begins at 5:45am and bikers will head out to the course at 6:30am. There are no entry fees for both fun run and bike ride.

For more information, contact the Tinian Mayor's Office. (PR)

NMASA

From Page 32

No. 4-66 approved by then Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio during the 4th Legislature in 1984 and gave NMASA the powers and duties in regulating the use, operation, and maintenance of sports facilities of the CNMI government, under a memorandum between the association and the departments of Community and Cultural Affairs, Natural Resources, Education, Public Works, and the Office of the Governor.

Two bills (House Bill 17-112 and House Bill 17-268) that will give NMASA more authority and flexibility in doing business, particularly the proposed takeover of the Oleai Sports Complex have been proposed and pre-filed for the past two years, but have yet to be enacted. A provision in the Pacific Games Council Charter (Article 3, Membership, Affiliation, and Fees) was also approved in October 2012, saying that a PGA (Pacific Games Association) member like NMASA (CNMI) will only be recog-

nized if it operates with autonomy and independence.

Besides the creation of a law that will "free" NMASA from DCCA or DSR, White said the association will be needing a regular budget to perform its job. He said for the past two years they been submitting proposed budgets to DCCA, but the division excluded NMASA on the list it submitted to the Office of Budget and Management.

The NMASA president added that for the past several years athletes and their families and the local sports officials have

been shelling out money from their own pocket just to hold competitions here or join off-island events.

"Help us help CNMI athletes. Give us the tools to do our job," White said during the awards ceremony attend by a Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, Reps. Ramon Tebuteb (IR-Saipan) and Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan), members of the CNMI Hall of Fame, and athletes and officials from various local sports groups.

NMASA gets funding only from annual membership fees

and donations. Unlike most of the Pacific nations, NMASA/CNMI is not an IOC member and thus could not get financial assistance from the powerful and well-funded International

Olympic Committee. The association also gets money from the government coffers only if a request is made and the recent one was during the 2010 Micronesian Games in Palau.

MARIANAS

From Page 32

and about everyone back home and why I'm here, which gave me the power to withstand the pain. I eventually got out of the leg hold and locked in a rear-naked choke for a tap out win just after the three-minute mark of the match," he described in an email.

Team Lloyd Irvin finished second overall in the No-Gi class behind Tiger Schulmann's MMA by a score of, 900-1,050; Balance Studios and Maxercise tied for third place with 560 teams points each.

Maxercise fielded the most Gi competition winners as the Lloyd

Irvin group also settled for runner-up honors, 580-1,170. The latter clipped third-ranked Balance Studios by 10 points.

With upwards of 30 medalists, Lloyd Irvin did however place first overall in the Kids & Teen team grouping ahead of Tiger Shulman's MMA, 5,250-4,620, while Martinez BJJ (3,920) rounded out the third spot.

In addition, Lloyd Irvin adults finished second overall to Maxercise, 1,480-1,730, with Balance Studios finishing in third (1,130).

Lloyd Irvin MMA Gi and No-Gi medalists, competing as adults, include, Roya Derivishian, Jose Esobar, Jeremy Gaston, Ray Hawkins, Shane

Hill-Taylor, Derrick Holmes, Carlo Levell, Ross Olexa, and Ron Sheldon.

Though Shane and Roman's wins were in the blue belt-intermediate division, the two are still technically not considered actual blue belt level students.

In order to obtain an official Jiu-Jitsu blue belt they must compete and win a Blue Belt-Gi event recognized by the National Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Federation.

Still, many of the same faces appear in both the Gi and No-Gi settings at such events.

Shane and Roman briefly contemplated entering into the Gi event, but opted out due to some injuries endured during their No-Gi gold runs.

Shane hurt his foot in the gold match, while Roman was toughing out a bruised wrist and shoulder.

"What we really have our site set on is the upcoming World Championships and didn't feel it was necessary to risk missing out on our upcoming training due to suffering a serious injury in Philly. I feel we made the right decision too because training has been going great and we are going very hard at the gym," said Shane.

The young aspiring mixed martial arts students are still white belts, but are confident in winning gold in the upcoming World Championships, which would in turn promote them to the blue belt level.

RACE

From Page 32

Resort.

Though Race said learning how to play tennis is not expensive as other may think, he admitted sending players to off-island competitions is and raising funds for these events could be a challenge to parents, especially at these trying times. The CNMI coach added bringing players to competition/practice venues and picking them up several times in a week also show the parents' unwavering support to their children.

"Thank you for your tireless effort and sacrifices," said Race.

The 2012 win in the Coach of the Year race ended Race's four-year quest for his fourth plum, not second as earlier reported. He won the coveted award first in 2001, had his second in 2003, and third in 2007. With his four awards, Race, who also won the 1992 Male Athlete of the Year, has the most Coach of the Year awards from NMASA. Athletics and basketball's Elias Rangamar has three (2004, 2008, and 2009), while CNMI Hall of Famer Tony Rogolifoi owns two, winning back-to-back in 2010 and 2011 before Race

ended his streak.

"I am very proud of this accomplishment. I hope to win it every year because that means our tennis players get to play great tennis every year, too," Race said with a big laugh in a brief phone interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Race, after receiving his fourth award, boasted the CNMI's domination in the North Pacific Qualifier for the past several years. He said the Commonwealth players won 11 of the 12 championships (five of the six singles crowns and sweep in doubles) in NPQ held in Guam. Then in the Pa-

cific Oceania Junior Champions in Fiji, the CNMI also had the most semifinalists with four.

"I hope our players get better and better every year," said Race, who was joined by his players at the awards ceremony as they also dominated NMA-SA's monthly honor roll.

The list includes Thea Minor, Luther Lizama, Michael Ren, Robbie Schorr, Negahr Rastguay, and Mikayla Lopez, who eventually took the NMASA/TSL Foundation Female Student Athlete of the Year for winning the monthly plum three times and finishing at the No. 1 spot in the U15 division of the POJC.

VARSITY

KHS 88 – Lampkin 18, Malwelbug 15, Jo. Santos 12, Je. Santos 9, Hocog 6, A. Santos 6, Butters 6, Nawaz 5, Polino 5, Ja. Santos 3, Nero 2.

MCS 68 – Saludez 33, Taguchi 15, Amog 9, Yamagata 9, Hyunson 2.

Scoring by quarters: 26-18, 38-35, 70-47, 88-68.

JUNIOR VARSITY

SSHS 49 – Fera 14, Palacios 9, Aranda 6, Ferrer 5, Borromeo 5, Castro 4, Javier 4.

ACS 43 – Yang 25, Puno 9, Lin 4, Guo 2, Mi. Li 2, Me. Li 1.

Scoring by quarters: 9-7, 28-28, 37-29, 49-45.

Ambrose Bennett inducted into college hall of fame

The Bennetts are track and field legends in the CNMI and in Memphis, Tennessee. Yvonne is already a living legend in the CNMI with four consecutive NMAA Athlete of the Year awards and she is getting even faster while her father, Ambrose M. Bennett, was inducted into his undergraduate college's Athlete Hall of Fame.

The induction ceremony for Ambrose was held at LeMoyne-Owen College in Memphis, Tennessee last Feb. 9. LeMoyne-Owen is a fully accredited Division AA college.

"While I was not be able to attend the ceremony my award was accepted by my elder son and daughter who still live in Memphis and my longtime friend and fellow member of Track Psi Phi, Jesse Willie Chatman. We viewed our team as a fraternity and Jesse Willie was our leader. While I had several scholarships in track and football to other colleges, it was Jesse Willie who convinced me [to go to LeMoyne] and the coaching staff to recruit me. Jesse Willie was not only a friend but a mentor and responsible for branding me with the nicknames 'Thin Win' and 'Mr. 440 yards' (today it is the 400m). I was well-known for my speed and the long white socks that would often thrill the crowds under the lights at night when I changed gears and speeded up at the 200m mark in the 400m race. Me being black and at night you could actually see my legs with the long white socks moving faster—I can still remember hearing the crowd woool!" the elder Bennett reminisced.

He, however, avowed to the more important lessons he learned about life from running track and the education that he received from LeMoyne-Owen, which allowed him to become an educator, a James Madison



▲ Ambrose "Thin-Win" M. Bennett, standing left with long white socks, pose with the rest of the LeMoyne-Owen College Track Psi Phi Team.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

► Ambrose A. Bennett, left, poses with daughter and four-time NMAA Athlete of the Year Yvonne Bennett, center, and his wife Lilian.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Fellow, a Fulbright-Hays scholar, an author, and elected to the CNMI State Board of Education, and more.

"I am truly indebted to LeMoyne-Owen and I am humbled and truly appreciative of being selected to the Athlete Hall of Fame—I will cherish this award for the rest of my life," he added.

Bennett was recruited in 1968 from Northside High School in Memphis, Tennessee. The track events he ran include cross country, 100m, 200m, 400m, 400m relay, and the mile relay.

Some of his best times were 9.6 (100 yards), 21.1 (220 yards/200m), 45.8



(440yards/400m), and 153.7 (880 yards/800m).

The elder Bennett set 400m track records at various tracks in the TIAC and in the VSAC Conferences.

"I am most proud of the 45.8 in the 400m time that actually qualified me for the Olympic Trials in 1972, but I injured my foot two weeks before the Olympic Trials were held and couldn't attend. But I am still proud of my 45.8 time in the 400m which has stood for over 30 years and is still the record

for LeMoyne-Owen's track and field. I contributed the most points to the track teams runner-up trophy in the TIAC Conference Championships in 1971, and I was the High Point Scorer/MVP in the VSAC Championship won by LeMoyne-Owen in 1972," he said.

Yvonne getting even faster

As for Yvonne, Ambrose happily reported that her daughter's over-distance and weight training during the off-season is paying off.

"Yvonne is already a four-time winner of the Athlete of the Year and now she's even faster. She has lowered her personal best times in the 60m race twice with a 7.94 and later with a blistering 7.88. She improved on her 200m race with a 25.16 at the Jackson's Invitational Meet in Nampa, Idaho (Jan. 25). Recently, she was finally able to run the open 400m at the Bronco Classic Meet for the first time this season and she established a new personal best of 57.02 shaving off almost a whole second (0.82 of a second) from her previous best time of 57.84 last Feb. 2," he said.

Most recently on Feb. 9 at the Nampa Idaho Center Indoor

» Daughter Yvonne also getting faster

Track Idaho Team Challenge hosted by Boise State University, Ambrose said Yvonne eclipsed her Jan. 25 personal best in the 200m of 25.16 to an astounding 24.69, improving her old CNMI time by over a full second.

In addition to this feat, he said her daughter also anchored the BSU 4x400m relay with split of 55.7—the team ran also the second fastest time in BSU history which was second to their own record they set when Yvonne first joined the relay team.

"The amazing thing about her recent accomplishments indoors is that her 200m and 400m times will be much faster on an our door track with fewer and wider

curves. Yvonne is approaching the top national rankings in the 200m and 400m and has gotten so fast that her coach is trying to recruit Yvonne to run another year even though she will be graduating because she still has another year of eligibility under NCAA rules, which Yvonne is seriously contemplating so she can work on her masters," said Ambrose.

The elder Bennett said Yvonne is looking forward to running the 100m to better her time which would complete her sweep of improvements in all the sprint races.

He said her daughter is now concentrating on the fine-tuning of the many nuances in running to run even faster.

"Yvonne is truly striving to be the best that she can be in track and field and we can expect more accomplishments as this track season has only just begun. Yvonne sends her love and appreciation to her parents and family back home for always supporting her and believing in her. Yvonne wants to also thank the people of the CNMI who express their gratitude to her parents on her accomplishments," he said.

Ambrose quoted Yvonne as saying: "My mom and dad are always giving me their messages of support from the people back home and it is truly inspiring for me to do even better." (PR)

Vacos vs Dig This, Beaches in Sunset Beach v'ball finals

By **WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND**
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REPORTER



After coming up short against top-ranked Vacos in the upper bracket semifinals

Dig This, Beaches battled back through the lower bracket elimination rounds last Friday as the NMI Volleyball Association's Sunset Co-ed Beach Volleyball Tournament is set to conclude at 5:30pm today on the sand courts of Fiesta Resort & Spa.

The game is set to tip off at 5:30pm; Vacos, which is comprised of J.R. Gechig, Wilton Laniyo, Chenny Lizama, John Nekeifes, and Mili Saiki, holds a twice-to-beat advantage for advancing through double-elimination bracket play undefeated.

Dig This, Beaches defeated eventual third place finisher Managaha in two sets, 21-19, and, 21-9, to advance to today's finale.

Dig This, Beaches is made up of Bruce Berline, Hannah Compos, and Clay McCullough-Stearns with Tyce and Angie Mister

Managaha advanced past Man' Amko back on Feb. 1 in two sets, 15-7, and, 15-13, to clinch its lower bracket semis berth.

In addition, Managaha Boyz

ended up winning the scheduled fourth place consolation match over Something Fishy via forfeit last weekend.

Coming into last Friday's pairings, Something Fishy defeated host team Fiesta back on Feb. 1 ultimately via forfeit after taking the opening set, 15-6; unfortunately, one of the opposing team's members had to return to work.

Meanwhile, Managaha Boyz advanced to the consolation round by ousting Harapwang Face in two sets, 15-7, and, 15-10.

In related news, the visiting professional beach volleyball players, who will be appearing in the Marianas Cup Pro-Am Tournament in Guam are expected to be in attendance for today's championship.

Modest cash prizes, in-kind gifts, and bragging rights go to the overall winners.

Game point for the finals is set at 21 with a cap of 25 with game point for the tiebreaker set designated as a race to 15.

Fiesta Resort & Spa, Brabu, KZMI 103.9 FM, and Gold's Gym also sponsor the event. The proceeds benefit NMIVA's youth volleyball development programs and international travel.

Visit www.nmivolleyball.org for more information.

Ed Sablan is SGA January winner



Saipan Golfers Association members pose after their recent 2013 January Ace of the Month Tournament held at the Marianas Country Club.



With a New Year, renewed spirit, and resolution, the Saipan Golfers Association members enthusiastically met at the Marianas Country Club to

begin the new year with a clean slate and to compete for the 2013 January Ace of the Month Tournament title.

After trying hard in 2012, SGA treasurer Ed Sablan challenged

the natural elements—wind and rain—and finally made a breakthrough and single-handedly clinched the January title.

Sablan had a net score of 75, with Norman Tenorio and John

"Nani" Cruz tied for second with a net score of 76. Through the traditional score card play-off, Tenorio placed second and Cruz third.

At the awards banquet at Mariano Fajardo's residence, the Top 3 players for the month were recognized along with the winners for the closest to the pin: James Nelson took hole No. 6, Jess Castro hole No. 16, Nick Sablan holes No. 8 and 12 as well as the longest drive for hole No. 7.

Juan Lizama, meanwhile, took the other longest drive in hole No. 11. An election was conducted for the president afterwards.

The golf club is happy to announce its new president, Eun Jung Teack, a longtime SGA member and former board of director. Greg Sablan is the new vice president, the other officers remained the same: Ed Sablan as treasurer; Frances Sablan as secretary, Nick Sablan as tournament director, Ed Manibusan as handicap director, and Steve Balakrishna as solicitation chairman. (PR)



**Clippers beat
Rockets for
third straight
win**
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**Ambrose Bennett
inducted into
college hall
of fame**
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Need for Oleai complex takeover reiterated

NMASA president Michael White addresses the crowd during the NMASA Annual Sports Banquet held last Wednesday night at the Seaside Hall of Kanoa Resort.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association president Michael White has identified the group's three major and related concerns this year to continue the promotion of sports development and excellence in the CNMI.

The takeover of the Oleai Sports Complex leads the priority list, which also includes the passing of a bill that will give NMASA autonomy and getting budget allocation from the government.

Speaking at the NMASA Annual Sports Banquet held Wednes-



day at the Kanoa Resort, White said the complex is in bad shape, specifically the weight room, which has been closed for several months due to its damaged and unsafe roof. Equipment at the weight room, which provides training and workouts for residents at a measly \$1 fee per visit, is also

in bad shape. The Division of Sports and Recreation of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs has been operating and managing the Oleai Sports Complex for decades although NMASA is mandated by a CNMI public law to do these tasks. However, Executive Order 94-3 put NMASA under the wing of DSR so there is now a tug-of-war for the facility.

White said NMASA can do a better job at taking care of the Oleai complex but it needs the help of lawmakers to repeal a 29-year statute that denies the association autonomy. He was talking of PL

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Marianas fighters shine in Philadelphia

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



Saipan's Shane "Pika-Boo" Alvarez and his cousin Roman "Boom"

Alvarez, of Guam, hoisted gold medals in the Northern American Grappling Association's (NAGA) Philadelphia Grappling Championship held last Feb. 2 and 3 at the Marple Sports Arena in Broomall, Pennsylvania.

In addition, Alvarez's veteran Lloyd Irvin MMA Academy teammate Frank "The Crank" Camacho took home the bronze in the purple belt No-Gi expert light-heavy-weight weight division.

Shane competed as a light-weight (150-160 lbs) in the No-Gi Blue Belt Intermediate division and bested Stephen Eisner in the finals after winning three prior matches, while



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan's Shane "Pika-Boo" Alvarez, center, won a gold medal in the lightweight class of the No-Gi Blue Belt Intermediate division in the recent Northern American Grappling Association's Philadelphia Grappling Championship.

Roman defeated teammate Ed-die Spiker in what was also his fourth match of the competition. Roman competed in the No-Gi Blue Belt Intermediate Feather-weight division.

According to Shane, he defeated his first three opponents via points by an average of 6-2, before pulling out a nice comeback submission victory for the gold medal.

"In the final I was up against a very good leg-lock specialist. He put me to the test and I admit I almost tapped out, but then I thought about the gold medal."

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Race shares award to tennis parents

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Coach of the Year
Jeff Race shared his award to parents of CNMI tennis players.

"I would like to recognize the presence of the our players' parents tonight. I am sharing

this Coach of the Year award to them for making a lot of sacrifices to ensure that their children get to play the sport they love and be good at it," Race said after accepting the NMASA 2012 Coach of the Year plum from Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos last Wednesday night at the Seaside Hall of Kanoa

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Jeff Race, left, receives the Coach of the Year award from Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos during the NMASA Annual Sports Banquet held last Wednesday night at the Seaside Hall of Kanoa Resort.

Ayuyus run away from Knights, 88-67

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



The Kagman High School Ayuyus blew past the Mount Carmel School Knights in the second half of Wednesday's varsity boys basketball matchup, 88-68, while Saipan Southern High School

Manta Rays outlasted the Agape Christian School Torchbearers, 49-43, in the junior division pairing as the Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization's 2013 season continued at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

Both losing squads came off wins last Friday as the Knights survived the Eucon Interna-

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WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Kagman High School's Jason Lampkin swipes a rebound from the grasp of Mount Carmel's Jia Michael Zhang in this file photo taken earlier in the MISO 2013 boys varsity basketball season at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.